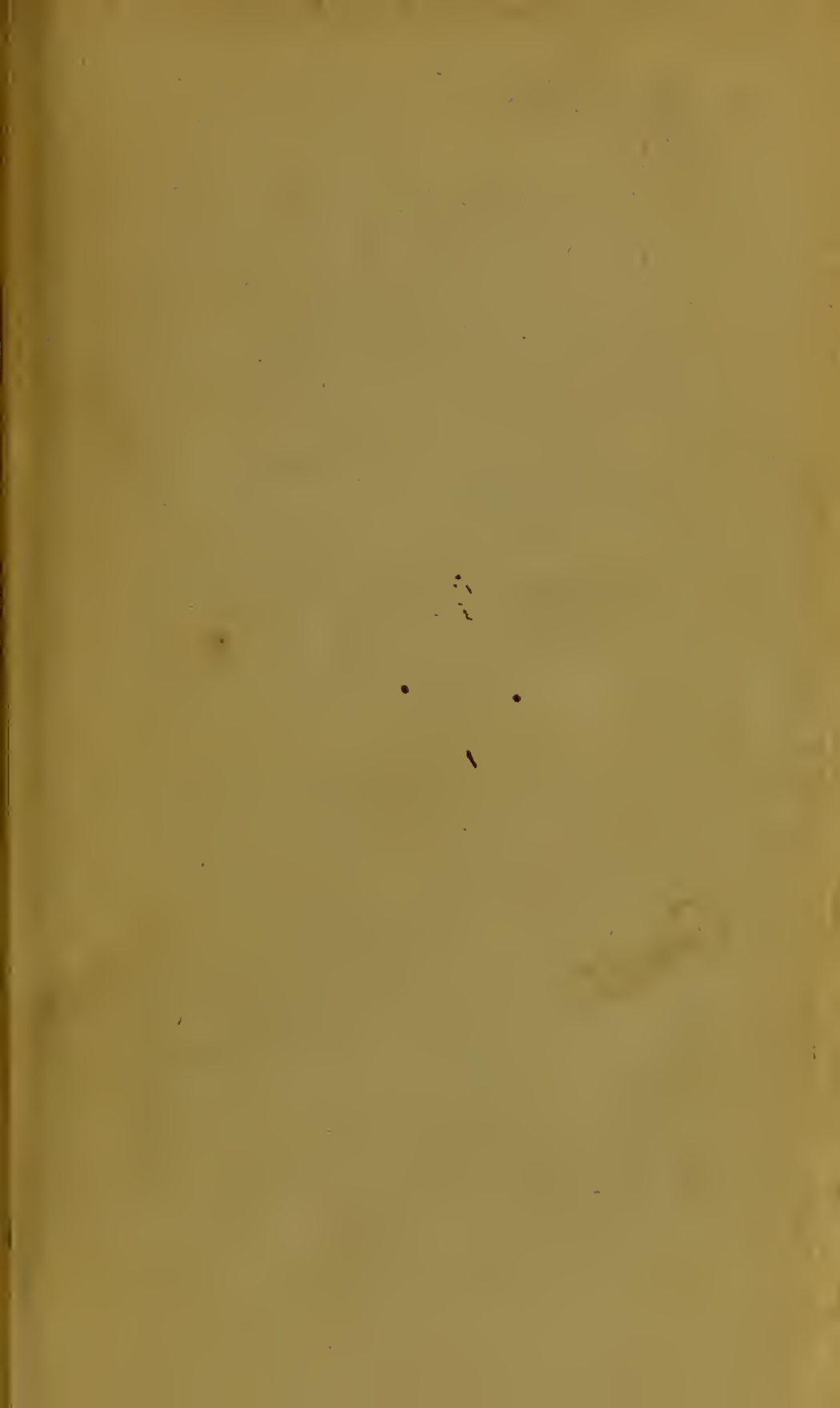
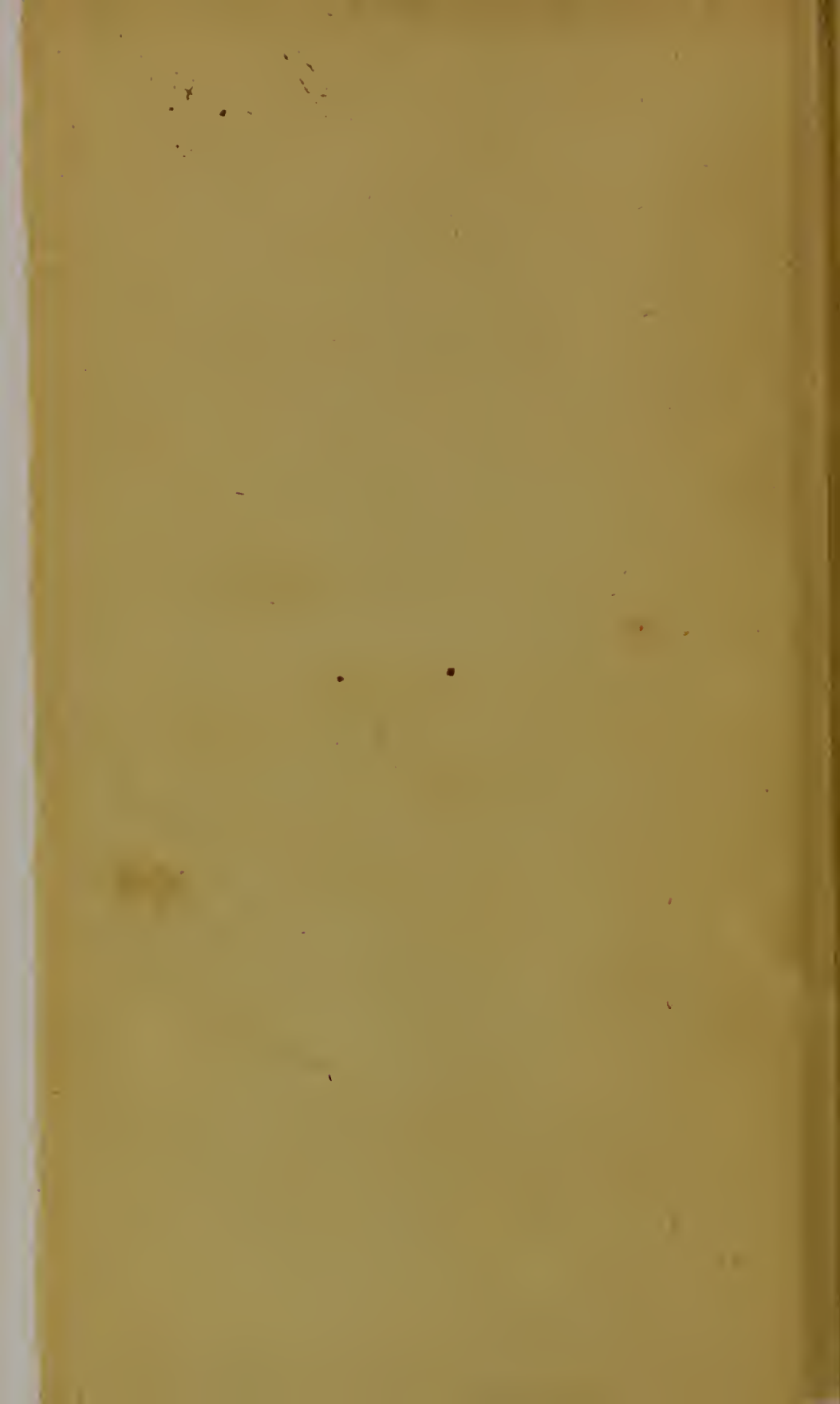




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A. L. S.

THE
REPORTS
OF
THE SOCIETY
FOR
BETTERING THE CONDITION
AND
INCREASING THE COMFORTS
OF THE POOR.

VOL. V.

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1808.

PRICE TWO SHILLINGS.

Since this Edition went to the press, it has been stated to us, that the Account given in page 177, of a Roman Catholic Priest, who became a convert to the Protestant Church, is not correct. In fact, he had not been resident in the Bishop of Dromore's neighbourhood, but had been sent as a Missionary into an adjoining Diocese; and having attentively studied the controversy respecting the Doctrines of the Protestant Church, became desirous of being received into its Communion. He was recommended to the Bishop of Dromore, and addressed to him the Letter afterwards printed; in which he states his reasons for quitting the Romish Church, and points out its errors in a very short and clear manner. His private character was unexceptionable; and he appears not to have been actuated by any interested motives, as very soon after his reception into the Protestant Church, he quitted Ireland for America, and settled in South Carolina.

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INTRODUCTORY LETTER

TO THE

FIFTH VOLUME,

ADDRESSED TO

WILLIAM WILBERFORCE, Esq. M. P.

&c. &c. &c.

MY DEAR SIR,

THE progress of inquiry has brought us to the Fifth Volume of the Society's Reports. We may with pleasure reflect on our uninterrupted tho gradual progress, and on the effect of example, in promoting similar institutions, throughout Ireland, Scotland, and other parts of his Majesty's extended dominions. We may at the same time direct our view forward with still more pleasure;—*now*, that we have the gratification of beholding the female poor, placed under the powerful and peculiar patronage of the most elevated and intelligent of their own sex;

VOL. V.

B

and of knowing, that their temporal Instruction and their religious Discipline, their present welfare and future hope, are become the declared and distinguished objects of those, from whom may be derived the brightest and most unsullied examples of female purity, and female excellence.

That we have at times proceeded over-cautiously, has been the opinion of some of our friends. The current of success was gentle and gradual. But we were not disheartened. Disappointment had not been fostered by the too eager expectation of *immediate effect* from exertion. In the natural world, the seed must for a time be buried, in order to produce at length the abundant and acceptable harvest. So have we found it in the *moral world*. We have the same hope, confirmed by a succession of similar and analogous effects; and in some instances where we have failed of our expected and desired object, we have ultimately reaped other benefits, of perhaps even still greater and more intrinsic value, to mankind.

I can recall to your memory, that when I first proposed the subject to the consideration of THE BISHOP OF DURHAM, MR. ELIOT,

and YOURSELF, I deprecated every attempt at early, and rapid progress. —The collecting of practical information, the ascertaining of the unequivocal result of experience, and the patient, and persevering toil of repeatedly weighing effects and consequences, —these have been the duties, to which we have devoted ourselves during a period of eight years ; and I have infinite satisfaction in now addressing you on the result of our inquiries.—When the welfare of MILLIONS is concerned, any safe and innoxious advancement towards the object, is an important advantage. What, MY DEAR SIR, is the devotion of the *whole life and labour of an Individual*, compared with the inestimable prize to be obtained ;— compared with the prospect of promoting, in *any degree*, or to *any extent*, the present and future happiness of our fellow creatures ;—compared with the hope, that, under the divine blessing, the benefit of our *feeble and limited efforts* may be extended to distant lands, and to future ages.

While we look back on past labour, it may be useful to endeavour to apply our information to practicable and attainable objects. With this desire, I have submitted

in the preceding Volume, “ *A short View of different Proposals which have been made respecting the Poor during the two preceding Centuries.*”* I shall now offer some observations upon these proposals, and attempt to point out what appears to be their general and radical defect: I shall venture to state, what I trust will be found THE ONLY BASIS upon which any effectual and permanent improvement can ever be made, in the utility and welfare of that class of our fellow subjects; and then conclude with proposing for consideration, the principles on which measures for diminishing the present expenses of the poor, and for increasing their happiness† and utility, may be formed and arranged.

The introduction of commerce and manufactures into England, in the fourteenth century, while it laid the foundations of CIVIL LIBERTY, gave birth to *pauperism* and *mendicity*. The labourer, who

* See Appendix, No. XV.

† It should however be premised, that we are not proceeding upon the vague and unfounded idea, that the present is a period of *peculiar* hardship; or that *distant countries and former ages* have been more favourable than the present, to the condition of the labouring class. It

had been till that period confined to the estate, of which he constituted part of the rental and value, was *employed and fed* by the feudal lord, whose vassal and slave he submitted to be. The severity, however, of this servitude had been considerably mitigated by the monastic institutions. Their manerial jurisdictions had afforded examples of a milder power in the early ages, and in the subsequent period their gates had offered a daily supply to the indigent and necessitous. The abolition, therefore, of these establishments in the sixteenth century, and the subjection of their estates to legal plunder, destroyed this source of monastic charity. In the consequence, a great number

is correctly stated by Sir Frederick Eden, (Vol. I. p. 560) that “no period during the present reign can be adduced in which the condition of the day-labourer has not been much more comfortable, than that of the same class of people, in what are often called *the good old times* of former reigns.”—We do not, however, inquire whether former times have been more or less favourable to the poor. It is enough for us to know that measures for the melioration of their CHARACTER AND CONDITION, are congenial to the feelings of social man, are conducive to the prosperity and permanency of the state, and above all are conformable to the spirit and principles of the CHRISTIAN RELIGION.

of helpless paupers were thrown upon the community, and specific provisions became necessary, to relieve want, to supply occupation, and promote industry.

The first remedy that seems to have occurred to our forefathers, was THE SEVERESTATUTE of Edward the Sixth. PUNISHMENT OF IDLENESS. And indeed, if sloth were to be corrected, and industry produced, by *penal severity*, the desired object must have been effectually obtained by an act passed in the first year of King Edward the Sixth.—*Discovered idleness* subjected the criminal to TWO YEARS SLAVERY, either to his parish, or to the individual who first *seized* upon him. The law not only permitted, but directed the master, to treat his newly-acquired slave with increase of labour and diminution of food ; and, if he could thereby impel him to attempt an escape, he acquired a *property in him for life* ; and was entitled to mark the letter S on his breast, *with a red hot iron*, instead of the milder sentence of his being only branded with the letter V.* If the slave attempted to quit his service a second time,

* V meant only vagabond ; while S fixed his slavery irremediably for life.

the law directed that HE SHOULD BE HANGED. This was apparently an increase, but in reality a mitigation, of severity : as the inducement to cruelty ceased, when the master had once acquired a *life interest* in the liberty and happiness of his fellow subject.—A legal *provision* was thereby also made for IDLE CHILDREN. They were to be the SLAVES of those *who could catch them* ; the boys till 24, the girls to the age of 21 : and to prevent any escape, they were to be secured with rings of iron round their necks, legs, and arms, at their master's discretion.

An act, so abhorrent to the character of the English nation, could not long remain a disgrace to our Statute Book. It was repealed before the end of that short reign. In lieu of it, two or more collectors were to be appointed in every parish, to receive money for the relief of the poor ; the payment of which, it was the object of several subsequent Acts to induce, or compel. By the 5th of Elizabeth, the price of labour was fixed, and those who had no *visible livelihood*, were compelled to go into service in husbandry, or in certain other occupations. The same statute determined the

notice on quitting service, appointed the hours of work, and regulated the apprenticeship of children.—The 18th of Elizabeth gave the magistrates authority to establish houses of correction: and, by the 39th of that reign, overseers were to be chosen, for employing poor children and others,—for building cottages on the waste,—and for punishing vagabonds.

At length, in the year 1601, these and other regulations were reduced Act for the relief of the Poor. and compiled into one Act; at first only temporary and experi-

mental, but afterwards made perpetual by the 16th of Charles I.—THE ACT FOR THE RELIEF OF THE POOR, was passed in the 43d year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth. With some variation, it has continued in force for more than two centuries; tho frequently objected to, on account of difficulties which have attended its execution; particularly in that part, which relates to the *employment* of the poor. It may be some consolation, therefore, that these complaints are not peculiar to the present day; but have been repeated from time to time during the whole of the two preceding

centuries. Perhaps we may be persuaded, that these difficulties have been of eventual benefit to mankind; as *the interest of the rich in the moral and religious character of the labouring class* would cease to exist, whenever by the power of the law, or by the device of man, the object should be attained, of making the poor *innocuous and useful*, without IMPROVEMENT OF CHARACTER, AND INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENT.

In the account which I have endeavoured to give, of the different proposals respecting the poor,* I have di- ^{Projects concerning the poor.} vided them into four classes. The first includes such plans, as are calculated to engage or compel the poor, to make a *prospective provision* for themselves, either by parochial annuities, or by Friendly Societies. In the second, I have noticed those for increasing the *employment* of the poor, and for teaching and inducing them to take advantage of it. The third, by far the more numerous class, proposes under various names and modifications, the *general establishment of workhouses*, as the remedy for

* No. XV. of Appendix to Vol. IV.

idleness, indiscretion, and immorality, in the lower orders of the community: and the fourth (which I have only referred to generally) recommends *an increase of wages, regulated by the price of bread, or bread corn*, as supplying a certain and competent maintenance for the poor.

Upon each of these classes I shall have Observations to offer a few observations.—And on the first class. first, as to proposals of *parochial annuities*, or *Friendly Societies*,* for inviting or obliging, the poor to provide for themselves.—Could this be done by the supply of better habits and means of life,—by the encouragement of industry and prudence,—and by the improvement of religious and moral character,—no measure will be more

* Those that I have noticed, are very few in number. Baron Maseres proposed selling PARISH ANNUITIES to the poor, on a calculation of three per cent.—Mr. Acland, a general FRIENDLY SOCIETY, to which every one might, and some persons should be compelled to subscribe; Mr. Haweis, a general *compulsory* system of friendly societies, the subscriptions payable by the employer: and Mr. Townsend (avoiding the term *compulsion*) made the continuance of such a subscription, while the labourers earnings could supply it, a previous *condition* to parish relief. See No. XV. of Appendix to Vol. IV.

politic in object, more practicable in execution, or more permanent in effect. It would supply to the poor man the means of making a prospective provision for himself and his family. It would resemble the wise and unprecedented policy, by which THE MINISTER has enabled the nation, to continue its present arduous contest, with INCREASING PROSPERITY ; producing constant incitement to national enterprize and industry, and furnishing perpetual supplies proportionate to the urgency of the necessity which requires them.

But with an increasing family the cottager, who has no other resource Difficulties for *daily food* except *daily labour*, attending it. can have little prospect of a certain surplus, from whence to continue his regular and periodical payments : much less can he entertain the hope of hoarding up so large a sum, as would purchase a parochial annuity.

And, indeed, if there should occur an extraordinary case of this kind, a calculation *at the rate of three per cent.* would not hold out a sufficient inducement. Certainly, it would not bear any comparison with the *profit and domestic advantages*, which

may be obtained by the cottager, who applies his savings to the acquisition of a cow,* or pigs, or bees; or in the purchase, or erection, of a cottage.†

It is essential that in friendly societies, Friendly So- every thing should be *spontaneous* cieties must and *voluntary*: and even in the aid be merely voluntary. and encouragement which may be given them, the nicest and most critical attention is required, not to hurt the feelings, or awaken the jealousy, of the cotta-

* The reader will find calculations of the advantage of pigs and bees, in the preceding Reports. —For the account of the net profit of a cow, *where the tenant can be supplied with land at a farmer's rent*, the reader is referred to our first Volume, p. 131; where it will appear that it amounts to about twenty-five per cent. on the original cost. In the same Volume, p. 334, the advantage, besides the cottager's domestic comfort in the supply of milk, is calculated by an able and experienced judge, MR. KENT, of Fulham, at thirty per cent. By the account in Vol. II. p. 248, it should appear that the average benefit from a cow rather exceeds Mr. Kent's calculation.—No parish annuity calculated at *three per cent.* can offer the cottager any competition of advantage, proportionate to what he may derive from such an improvement of his means and domestic resources.

† The reader is referred to the Accounts of Britton Abbot, and Joseph Austin, in the preceding Reports.

ger. HIS MITE MAY BE GIVEN, BUT IT CANNOT BE LEVIED.—When the pittance to be contributed by *indigence*, must be obtained by *hard labour* and *hard fare*, the very idea of force and compulsion will paralyse the strength of the cottager, and unfit him for exertion. And, as to the idea of making these contributions a *condition of parochial relief*, let us consider how impossible it will be to refuse relief to misery, merely because it is *doubtful* whether it might have, and it is *certain* it has not, continued a regular contribution to these funds.

The object of the second class of proposals, is *employment*.*—Whenever new sources of occupation can be opened to the poor, or an increase

2d. Observations on employment of the poor

* This was one of the earliest measures proposed:—first in 1615 and 1641, by the herring-fishery, in 1650 by that and the woollen manufactory, and in 1673, by the manufactures of linen and iron. The experiment of *employing the poor*, was made on a considerable scale, and with much practical knowledge, by Mr. Firmin in the parish of Aldersgate; and in 1697, the abilities of Mr. Locke were directed to this subject, by a reference from the Board of Trade. Dean Tucker and the Rev. Mr. Townsend have since recommended Mr. Lock's plan

of current given to such as already exist, the labourer will always be thereby benefited. But without one of these advantages, an attempt to give advantageous employment to the idle and the thriftless will often tend to injure and dishearten the active and industrious, without meliorating the character and condition of the other. It has been frequently and very correctly stated, that nothing can afford so acceptable relief to the honest poor, as the supply of useful occupation,—that their labour is the only commodity which they have to offer at the market;—and that the increase of demand is always an augmentation of its value, and to the labourer an improvement of condition. These observations will be found to apply with additional force to our FISHERIES; which, at the same time that they increase the demand for labour, augment *the supply of food*; and tho' apparently confined in their benefit to maritime countries, yet

for the parochial establishment of workshops, for the constant employment of all the unoccupied poor. See No. XV. of Appendix to Vol. IV.

eventually improve the condition of the labouring class in every part of the kingdom.

The same remarks may be applied to the cultivation of WASTE LANDS. In the infancy of *manufactures* also, they will be in part applicable to them; or at least to such of them

And by agriculture, manufactures, &c.

as are of cheap material, simple process, easy market, and capable of being worked by the cottager, or his family, *at home*:—such I mean, as spinning by hand, basket making, the split straw platt, and the like. But in our complicated and intricate machinery, improved and extended as it has been by ingenious and scientific men, every manufacturer has his own secret and peculiar processes and inventions; the rich and merited reward of mind and talent, devoted and concentered to a single object. In this instance, therefore, it would be perfectly ridiculous, to expect the cottager, or the parish overseer, to attempt a competition. The philosophy of one of our simplest manufactures, perpetually improving by the increasing discoveries in chemistry and mechanics, would have astonished the wisest

and most learned men of antiquity. At the same time, our unbounded commerce has made the WHOLE WORLD A SOURCE to supply our materials, and a MARKET to receive our goods. Add to this, that the stimulating example of men, who have *honourably* made immense fortunes, by the extent and unfailing skill of their operations, and by the advantage of attention and intelligence directed to one point, and operating for its own benefit, is such, as can leave no possible advantage to any parish officer, who may be appointed, or hired, for the purpose of employing the poor in *ingenious* or *complicated* manufactures.

I will venture to go further, and to say, Observations as to manufactures. that if it were practicable, with the aid of the parish purse, for the parish overseer to succeed in a competition with the manufacturer, it would neither be just or politic, so to employ the public stock, to the injury of the industrious individual. But then, I trust the *manufacturer* will on his part concede, that it is THE DUTY OF THE STATE to watch over his extended speculations;—and to ascertain that his mills and factories are not converted

into SEMINARIES OF DISEASE, AND MISERY, AND PROFLIGACY. In a peculiar degree, will it be the public duty, to attend to their effects on the *rising generation*; and to see that, at the age, when young persons should be *happy and useful*, they do not become *worthless and wretched*.—I have recently had convincing proof, that the necessary instruction of youth, and the strict care of their health and morals, in these great mills and factories, are not only compatible with, but eventually conduce to, the profit of the manufacturer. The evidence has been the more gratifying, because exemplified in a great and extended concern; where not less than 1000 apprentices are engaged: and where above 3000 looms are constantly employed; the greater part, in the cottages of the poor, and without prejudice to their domestic habits and enjoyments.—

The providing for the poor, by a general system of WORKHOUSES, extend-
 ed to every part of the kingdom, has been recommended by a va-
 riety of able and respectable men. Of these, the plans of Sir Josiah Child and Mr. Field-
 ing, applied only to the *metropolis*, and its

3d. Obser-
 vations on
 workhouses.

vicinage ;—those of Sir Matthew Hale, Mr. Hay, Mr. Allcock, Sir Richard Lloyd, Mr. Cooper, and Mr. Gilbert, were directed to DISTRICT WORKHOUSES for hundreds, or divisions of hundreds. Mr. Haines and Lord Hillsborough proposed WORKHOUSES FOR COUNTIES: and Dr. Davenant and Mr. Bellers carried their projects to an extent still more complicated and unmanageable. These plans differ in the scale of operation, in the intricacy of machinery, and in the degree of severity* by which they are to be enforced ; but they are all subject to nearly the same observations and objections.

The first objection to any *general system* of workhouses, applies not merely to the diminution of useful

* It should be a fundamental maxim in every measure to be adopted respecting the indigent and necessitous, that it should be such, as will not only be easily executed, *but as will in some degree execute itself*, by the *motive* and *inducement* which it may afford, for its enforcement and observance. In novel establishments, great exertions are sometimes made, and extraordinary attentions bestowed, in order to secure their success ; particularly where there has existed a *difference of opinion* as to their expediency and practicability. But these efforts will be only temporary and transient, and will end in delusion and

labour, but to the increase of *expense* incurred in the maintenance of the poor. If we refer to any of the tables, or statements, of the expenditure of the labouring class, we shall find that the cost of a pauper in the workhouse, is *half as much again* as in his own cottage; and that no earnings, that can be obtained by the labourer, would ever support his increasing family, if his expense of food, clothing, and other necessities, were estimated, upon any mode or principle, adopted in the workhouse. Besides this, the buildings and the establishment must necessarily be of a size, and of an extent of

disappointment. The objects of the poor laws are the helpless, the thoughtless, and the depraved part of the community: and if *no amendment* is produced the perverseness of OUR CORRUPT AND FALLEN NATURE will sooner or later break forth; and, after disappointing our hope, and exhausting our patience, will establish itself on the ruins of our system.—On the contrary, while our attention is directed to the *improvement* of the CHARACTER, as well as of the RESOURCES AND HABITS, of the poor, every measure that has been adopted, every step that has been taken, smooths and facilitates our future progress; and invites and encourages us to proceed, in a path, in which the labour is gradually diminished, while the gratification is constantly increased.

preparation, calculated for emergencies; and greater than what is required for the domesticated poor.

These are objections, on the score of mere economy.—But, if we direct our attention to more important objects, we shall find, that nothing is so hostile to the morals and the habits of the poor, as congregating under one roof,* the idle, the infirm, and the dissolute;—intermixing doating age with helpless infancy.—and associating the artful prostitute and the convicted thief, with innocent and unsuspecting youth. Such, however, have been the effects of *workhouses*, in every part of the kingdom; and until the different classes can be *completely* separated, the prevention of those effects will require a greater degree of zeal,

* In *private families*, individuals are taught to bear with each others humours and infirmities by natural duty and affection,—by long connection, by early intercourse, and by those principles which the ALMIGHTY has graciously provided for the maintenance of domestic peace and comfort. In a *workhouse* all the varieties of dispositions, tempers, habits, and ages, are compressed together into one family; without any of the foregoing advantages to produce conciliation, or to prevent the crowded and incumbered household, from becoming a perpetual scene of incessant contention and vexation. W.

talent, and attention, than can ever be supplied by man.—These are inconveniencies, common to these institutions: but they have been greatly enhanced in incorporated districts, by a principle generally adopted in them;—*that the contribution from each parish in the district, shall be invariably fixed* according to its rate or proportion, at the first establishment*:—a circumstance, which, while it removes all interest of the parish officers and others, in the improvement of their own parochial poor, or in their instruction or occupation, frequently *commits* to this *parish jail* those, whose families, with the supply of a little work or with some brief and limited assistance, might have continued to thrive and be happy in their own habitations.

The cottager, if once settled in the work-house, feels a privation of all motive to industry and activity.—Their effects on the cottager. Independence, domestic habits, the love of home, the power of being useful,

* The reader is requested to refer to the Account of Sir Richard Lloyd's Plan in No. XV. of Appendix to Volume IV. and to the Account of the Montgomery and Pool House of Industry, in the Report No. CX. Vol. IV.

and the hope of bettering his condition, are by him for ever lost and relinquished, from the hour that he has habituated his mind, to continue a resident among *parish paupers*. In PAUPERISM as in SLAVERY, the degradation of character deprives the individual of half his value; and it rarely occurs, that the inmate of the workhouse is ever restored to his native energy, and power of exertion. —The evil, however, does not stop with him and his family. Pauperism and mendicity are of the *most infectious nature*. The example of those, who have gradually reconciled themselves to the workhouse, too frequently affects the other industrious poor. They listen to the detail of the waste, the license, and the idleness, of the public establishment. They are led to compare it with their own hard fare, and hard labour; and the value of domestic comfort, and of personal independence, insensibly diminishes in their estimation. Labour is no longer sweetened by the society of a wife and children,—which now seem a burthen: and, when the mind is thus prepared *to desire admission* among the parochial poor, the useful and industrious cottager becomes a

dead weight, and a noxious burthen, to the community.

WORKHOUSES may be sometimes necessary in the management of the poor. There are certain helpless and insulated beings, to whom they prove an *asylum*: there are others, to whom they are adapted, as houses of *correction*. But, when they become the receptacle of *youth*, they destroy the hope of the succeeding generation;—when, backed by necessity, they *force* the aged and reluctant cottager into their walls, they do flagrant injustice to the claims of past labour;—and when they intermix all the characters, which are objects of parochial relief or correction, *they disseminate contagion*, and irremediably spread through the country THE INFECTION OF IDLENESS AND IMMORALITY.—

I proceed in the fourth place to consider another mode, which has been proposed for relieving the distresses of the poor:—*that of fixing the price of labour* by parliamentary regulations, having a reference to the*

General Observations on them.

4th. On fixing the price of labour by that of bread.

* These proposals have been always introduced by tables of the labourers *earnings* and *expences*. Such tables

current price of bread. — This has been a favourite idea of some very intelligent and benevolent men. — In order to ascertain its consequences, if practicable, let us refer to a very recent period of our domestic history.

In the year 1780, the price of a quartern loaf was six pence; and the labourer's wages were then, nine shillings a week. During the scarcity in 1800, the quartern loaf cost one shilling and nine pence. The proportionate wages, therefore, fixed by the price of bread, must then have been £1. 11s. 6d. per week, or five shillings and three pence

may be of use in general calculations: but they must not be implicitly depended on. With regard to earnings, the *slothful* will never reach the calculated sum; and to the *industrious*, there will always occur some favourable circumstance, which will enable him to exceed it. — In respect of expenses, the difference between a family that lives, as it is called *from hand to mouth*, and one that has prudential habits and domestic resources, will be beyond all calculation. One of LORD WINCHILSEA's cottagers, who has a cow pasture, a piggery, and a garden, will thrive and live better with the wages of eight shillings a week, than a *hand to mouth man* will with three times the sum. — I mention this to shew that improvement of the habits and resources of the poor, will do them much more good, than increase of wages.

a day.*—At the same time, the labourer would have had no motive to diminish his consumption of wheat corn, but would have been *invited by a parliamentary bounty and national authority*, to consume as much, as he would have done in times of plenty. The consequence of the unrestrained consumption of bread, must have been an augmentation of the price of corn; and, while the system was followed, a progressive increase of the price of labour. And this must have proceeded with an augmenting rapidity;—except so far as it might have been checked by the export of treasure, in quest of such wheat as could be spared from foreign countries. How imperfect and inadequate this remedy would have been (even though we carried *double money in our sacks*) we have learnt by sad and recent experience. During the late scarcity, MILLIONS were expended in the purchase of foreign wheat;—and yet, without very strict and general economy of

* What I have here stated is an extraordinary, but I fear not an *extreme* case. Any measures, however, which may be adopted for *regulating the price of labour by the price of bread*, will be more or less liable to the objections here stated, in proportion as those measures may be *more or less operative and efficient*.

food, and without an abundant and unexpected supply of fish and other articles successfully brought into the market, the country would not have been preserved from a temporary famine.

There would be another consequence ;—
 Consequence that if the price of labour had
 ce as to ma- been then regulated by the price
 nufactures. of bread, and fixed at five shillings and three pence a day, the MANUFACTURER could not have afforded to continue to employ his workmen. No amount of property, no degree of patriotism, could have induced him to proceed on an adequate scale of operation, while the original cost of labour was such, as to check the domestic market, and to prohibit exportation to any other country. The manufacturer must, therefore, have been compelled, however unwilling, to dismiss his workmen. In vain would they desire to be employed, at such a price as he could afford to pay. The *punishment of the law* would await both the employed, and the employer ; and, forbidden to work, they must have resorted as PAUPERS to their parish.

This, however, would be only the begin-

ning of sorrows.—The AGRICULTURIST, unless in confidence of a *continued* Consequences as to Agriculture. *high price of corn*, could not have afforded to cultivate wheat, when the labourer's wages were five shillings and three pence a day : and if the natural consequence had followed, and the cultivation of wheat-corn had been discontinued or diminished, arable land must have been converted into pasture, or left waste ; and the labourer and his family, *without employment and without food*, must have solicited parochial relief, or personal charity.—The evil, however, must soon become general : it would not be restricted to the labouring class : for, if we can suppose that the cultivation of wheat-corn should ever be greatly and materially, diminished in this country, the effects must be soon felt in every part, and by every individual, of the kingdom. SCARCITY would not have then been a casual and temporary guest ; but, under the meagre and horrid form of FAMINE, would have continued the perpetual tyrant of the land.

It is fortunate, therefore, that the price of

labour does not depend upon laws, and
 Price of La- lawgivers.*—IT IS GOVERNED
 bour depends BY THE SUPPLY AND THE DE-
 on supply and demand. MAND. It may be in the power
 of the legislature to prohibit industry:—to
 forbid the agriculturist and the manufac-
 turer to employ the labourer, and to restrain
 the labourer from working under a certain
 rate. But the only mode of increasing the
price of labour, is to encrease the *demand*
 for it. It is not within the supremacy of
 human power, to provide a regular supply
 of occupation for the poor, to be paid for
 in proportion† to the price of food; espe-

* Another inconvenience in fixing the price of labour
 by parliamentary regulations—I am referring to sugges-
 tions which have been made with regard to the labour
 of the poor—but if it were possible to equalize the price
 of labour another inconvenience would follow,—that
 when the pay of the aged, the infirm and the slothful,
 is fixed at the same rate, as that of the young, the active,
 and the healthy, no *industry* or *exertion* could ever con-
 tinue to exist, under such a regulation.

† I am not aware of any effectual remedy to prevent
 the labourer from suffering in periods of scarcity, ex-
 cept that of supplying him with better domestic habits
 and resources. If he has a cow, a pig, and a garden, he

cially under the circumstances of deficiency of crop, and increase of population.—

In all the plans that have been produced for the management of the poor, General objections to the plans for the we may discover talent and ingenuity; and, in most of them, poor. charity and philanthropy. But the defect seems to be, that they do not propose to operate, as *on free and rational agents, and on religious and accountable creatures*;—each filling his place best when most earnestly seeking his own happiness:—but as upon WORKS OF ART AND MERE MECHANISM; where the greatest *momentum* is to be acquired, when the machinery is most complicated, and the principles of action most involved. The virtue and energy of the separate parts of the political body constitute the aggregate of the virtue and energy of the whole; and it is vain to expect, that, while individuals are *depraved and ignorant*, the state should be *prosperous and enlightened*.—may still suffer by the scarcity, as others do; but his own domestic supply from them,—and the increase of price on what he may sell,—on his veal, butter, pork, and vegetables,—will contribute to prevent his suffering more than the other members of the community, and will mitigate his sufferings from the scarcity.

ened.—We have made repeated experiments on parochial manufactures, on farming the poor, on increasing the poor's rate, on the patronage of sentimental beggars, and the establishment of incorporated work-houses. Let us now try the influence of RELIGIOUS MOTIVE, the consequence of MELIORATION OF CHARACTER, and the effects of IMPROVEMENT OF CONDITION. Let us endeavour to operate by individual kindness and encouragement, by the prospect of acquiring property, and by every other incitement to industry and prudence:—and we shall find that, when the component parts of the body politic become sound and perfect, the state itself will be healthy and thriving.

To pure and vital CHRISTIANITY, we must look for the basis of every
 Effects of Christianity as to War. essential and permanent improvement, in the condition of the poor.* To that alone we are indebted,

* When however, I speak of its influence and effects, I refer to Christianity, in its original and uncorrupted purity, adopting the position that, in proportion as, in any country; Christianity has degenerated into form, or been perverted into craft, so far its effects have been diminished

not only for our exemption from some of the most desolating evils under which humanity formerly suffered, but even for the very existence of CHARITY itself.—In the first place, we may observe a visible and obvious improvement of our condition, by its influence in respect of war, and in the mitigation of those horrors and atrocities,—which, until the corruption of our nature* and deteriorated; and that where its true character has been preserved, and faith has operated to produce moral virtue, there its effects have been improved and augmented.

* What could be expected from the frail and imperfect descendants of Adam, when the example of the false deities, to whom they offered prayer and sacrifice, gave a sanction to every thing, that is degrading and detestable in the character of man. Who, says Bayle, in a note to his Article Babylon,—“ who can sufficiently lament the monstrous alliance between the worship of the heathen gods, and the most filthy passions ?”——There is not, indeed, a crime, to which human frailty is subject,—there is not a degree of atrocious barbarity, or a species of infamous lust, which was not authorized by the traditional history of those imaginary beings, whom the heathens worshipped, instead of the true and only God. Jupiter, their chief, was supreme in every variety of odious and detestable vice and cruelty. Yet we find the subject treated by Lucian, rather as matter of ridicule and pleasantry, than of horror and detestation.—The appeal of the youth in Terence to the

is in a great measure done away, will, I fear, be unavoidable evils, produced and reproduced by our own lusts and passions. —The murder of prisoners in cold blood, and the subjugating of them to the caprice and ferocity of the conqueror, either chained to his triumphal car, or trained to slaughter as gladiators,—or subjected to

example of Jupiter, was no poetical fiction ; but conformable and analogous to the manners of common life :

At quem deum ? qui templa cœli summa sonitu concutit,
EGO HOMUNCIO HUC NON FACEREM ? ego vero illud feci, ac *lubens*.

As the Pagan mythology had a tendency to encourage vice, so the Mahomedan superstition has had the effect of producing sensuality. Instead of the pure and undefiled doctrines of Christianity, and the hope of INTELLECTUAL AND SPIRITUAL HAPPINESS, the reward of that piety and virtue which alone can prepare us for enjoying it, Mahometanism offers to its votaries slaughter and conquest,—the unrestrained indulgence of lust and passion,—and the promise of a SENSUAL HEAVEN. —Can we wonder then that it has so *utterly debased and degraded the human character*, that Arabia, which, at the time of Mahomet, was the FAVOURED SEAT OF ART AND SCIENCE, is now, together with the other regions of Mahometanism, the land of *darkness and ignorance* ;—while our Christian world, then barbarous and uncivilized, is distinguished for the improvement and extension of every species of knowledge, that can be useful or honourable to human nature.

domestic or predial slavery,—all these are now done away. In the most embittered hostility, *among Christians at least*, we find that as soon as the conflict is past, and victory decided, the causes of enmity are forgotten, and charity and mutual kindness are restored.

Of the wretched lot of **GLADIATORS*** we can now only learn from history. Other effects. The evil has long ceased to exist. When

* As to **GLADIATORS**;—exclusive of the numbers in the provincial cities and towns, there were *myriads* of them, in chains and confinement in Rome;—reserved like untamed and savage animals, for public spectacles;—destined to be destroye, or mangled, by wild beasts, or by each other;—and condemned to be the objects of shews and exhibitions, calculated to increase the natural ferocity and depravity of fallen man. In his Panegyric on Trajan, Pliny twice refers to the **SPO-LIARIUM**, a place adjoining the Amphitheatre; where, when the gladiators were killed or mortally wounded, the mangled bodies of the dying and dead were dragged by a hook from the Amphitheatre.—Of the *situation* and *number* of these unfortunate men, we may form some judgment from this circumstance,—that on Trajan's triumph over the Dacians, the spectacle offered to the populace, in *civilized Rome*, was a combat of 10,000 gladiators and 11,000 wild beasts. This emperor, one of the mildest characters of the heathen world, applauded by Pliny as the friend of human nature, felt no com-

Christianity obtained the ascendancy in the civilized world, the emperor Constantine prohibited this outrage on human nature ; and tho partially renewed by his successors,

punction, in compelling 10,000 innocent men to maim or massacre one another, or to join in conflict with ferocious animals,—so as he could but make them the bloody ornaments of a transitory and worthless triumph.—What was the wretched and desperate state of gladiators in the *provinces*, we may see exemplified in the little town of Capua ; by the successful war which a GLADIATOR, THE HERO SPARTACUS, waged for a long time against the armies of Rome, in the zenith of its glory and power, and not many years before the birth of our Saviour. Of 200 gladiators, kept by one individual at Capua, 78 men escaped from their confinement. They were unarmed and defenceless.—Despair, however, and *the misery of a multitude of fellow sufferers*, soon converted this weak and contemptible band into an army of 120,000 men : and, if their discipline and subordination had been equal to their courage and fortitude, Rome, imperial Rome, in despite of the efforts of its three great generals, *Crassus*, *Lucullus*, and *Pompey*, might have fallen a victim to its own cruelty and injustice.—Conquered, however, at length, not by personal valour, but by military skill, EIGHTY THREE THOUSAND of them died bravely in the field of battle. Of the remainder, SIX THOUSAND were taken prisoners. *They were ALL crucified* ; and the horrid exhibition of their dying misery made an extended display of barbarity, along the whole road from Capua to Rome.

the shews of Gladiators were entirely and finally suppressed by his Christian successor, Honorius.—I wish I were able to add, that Christianity had *already* produced the same beneficial effects, in the ENTIRE ABOLITION OF SLAVERY. Where, however, it does continue to exist, we have the satisfaction to know, that the number is so diminished, and the severity so mitigated,* as to bear no resemblance to its ancient form.

* As to the NUMBER and *condition* of SLAVES among the heathens:—if, without noticing the History of the Helots at Sparta, or the still more painful examples in some of the savage countries and ages of antiquity, we refer to the Roman empire at the time of the birth of our Saviour, in the most enlightened and civilized period of the Pagan world, we shall find that, of their *prisoners of war*, the aged and infirm were involved in indiscriminate massacre, and the younger subjected to every species of barbarity and lust;—or perhaps reserved, first to grace the victor's triumph, and then to perish in misery or in torture. If we trace the condition of those who survived, and from captives became slaves, we shall find them devoted to unceasing and unqualified labour, without religious restraint, or legal protection. Tacitus gives an instance (14 Ann. 42) of all the domestic slaves of a Roman citizen (*Pedanius Secundus*, who had fallen a sacrifice to his own licentious debauchery) being publicly executed; tho without the slightest imputation of cri-

TORTURE was once the ordinary and familiar mode of extracting evidence. In the Roman empire, all persons were subjected to it, a

minality in the persons executed. The speech of C. Cassius, *against shewing them any mercy*, can hardly be perused without horror and indignation.—It is, indeed, impossible to refer to any of the Roman Classics, without discovering various proofs of the capricious and insufferable tyranny, to which their slaves were subjected. —SENECA in one of his Epistles (No. 122) is drawing a picture of that disorderly luxury, which changes day into night, and night into day, and inverts the order of nature. Of this irregularity, which has not been *peculiarly* confined to *that age*, he mentions as an instance; that the neighbours of one who has acquired these perverted habits, were generally disturbed in the middle of the night, by the noise of whipping and scourging; and upon sending to enquire, were informed that their neighbour was only giving the usual chastisement to his slaves. The philosophic Seneca does not mention this conduct as *barbarous*, but only as *unneighbourly*; not as outraging the feelings, but as interrupting the repose, of the neighbourhood; in short, not as an instance of savage cruelty, but of preposterous disorder. His words are remarkable; “Audio circa horam tertiam noctis, FLAGELLORUM sonos: quæro quid faciunt? Dicitur, *rationis reddere*.” I need not inform the classical reader, that the flagellum, or scourge, the *sound of which interrupted the sleep* of the neighbourhood, (for

few privileged citizens excepted. It is now entirely abolished in every Christian state : and little more than the traditional memory of its horrors,* does now remain in any part

if it had not, Seneca would not have noticed it,) was distinguished from the *scutica*, or whip, as an horrible and frequently a *fatal* punishment. The expression of *flagellis cadere*, and that of *horribili sectere flagello*, and of *flagellum tortum furiarum*, may be referred to among others.—As to the number of those, who were thus condemned to severe labour and DAILY scourging, we read that four thousand slaves were no unusual property for a Roman citizen of moderate fortune : and that the opulent possessed much more numerous *herds* of their fellow creatures ; there being several Roman citizens, who had above 20,000 slaves. In the two servile wars in Sicily, when even their own historians do not *pretend* that the Romans had any justice on their side, it appears that above a MILLION of slaves were destroyed ; and we shall probably on enquiry admit the correctness of Mr. Gibbon's calculation, who supposes that there were SIXTY MILLIONS OF ROMAN SLAVES in the time of the Emperor Claudius.

* Whenever the defect of evidence, the intricacy of the case, or the caprice or avarice of power, produced a motive, the TORTURE was extended to all, who had not the exclusive and peculiar privilege of a Roman citizen. It was a thing of course, that all the slaves of a family should be put to the torture, where the least doubt existed (and sometimes where there existed no doubt) in order to furnish the required testimony.

of the civilized world. In *criminal proceedings*, the accused, no longer subjected to prejudice before judgment and to cruelty afterwards, is treated, in England at least, and in other countries where the reformed religion of CHRIST is recognised, with a degree of mercy and tenderness, which has appeared in some instances, even to pass the bounds of political wisdom ;—particularly where the kindness and compassion shewn to an *atrocious criminal* has a tendency to lessen the abhorrence of his guilt, and to diminish the effect of his punishment.*

These wretched persons sometimes yielded to the excess of the torments which they underwent ; and supplied all the evidence their tormentors had occasion for : in others they maintained a conscientious veracity, at the expense of their lives.

* To these examples may be added the practice of *exposing or murdering newborn children*.—The extent to which this unnatural practice prevailed, and the familiarity with which it was talked of, will scarcely be conceived in our happier times. We find frequent traces of it, especially in the dramatic authors, the class of writers from whom we naturally expect a living picture of the manners of the times.--In one place, when the master of a family is going from home for a time, and is giving directions for the management of his domestic concerns during his absence, he is asked, as of course, whether the infant, with

It is not, however, the mere abstinence from injury and cruelty to our fellow creatures, and from the

The origin of charity.

which his wife is pregnant, is to be destroyed or not, on its coming into the world. But other similar instances are too common, to require specification. Nay, an old Greek poet would make us believe, that tho a man of wealth would not be at the expense of bringing up his daughters, yet even a poor man would be solicitous to save his sons. Passages like these cannot be read without astonishment, as well as horror, at a time, when CHRISTIANITY has so raised the *general standard of morals*, that many of her practical principles, are universally received, not only by professed believers in Christianity, but even by those who do not recognise her authority, or subscribe to her peculiar tenets.—Let us therefore ascribe to Christianity her due honour, instead of supposing that we are *naturally* more kind, more humane, or more virtuous, than our fellow creatures in other times and countries. The sceptic indeed may impute to the finer feelings of our nature, if not to our superior light and knowledge, the HORROR which is now universally excited, by the very mention of the shocking practice of the exposure of infants. But we find in every country which has been blessed with the benign influence of our religion, that this practice has been utterly abolished;—and we may remember, that it was Constantine, the first Christian Emperor, who made the first legal provision for the protection and preservation of these helpless infants; and that this humane edict may be therefore regarded as the FIRST

aggravation of the miseries of mankind, but it is active and unwearied labour for the benefit of others, which characterises our

TRIUMPH OF CHRISTIANITY over the barbarities of Paganism :—While, on the other hand, this savage practice was so universally prevalent among all the most polished nations in the Pagan world, that Mr. Gibbon, tho avowedly favourable to the religion and manners of the ancients, confesses that it was the incorrigible vice of all antiquity ;—And again, we learn that in the immense Empire of CHINA (almost the only country in modern times, which, without any acquaintance with Christianity, has risen to any great height of civilization) the same practice has long prevailed, and at this day subsists under its most horrid forms. Must we not then be forced to acknowledge by principles of fair reasoning, as well as of pious gratitude, that it is to CHRISTIANITY that we owe our exemption from this scandal of human nature.—I forbear to specify other similar outrages on those *natural feelings*, as well as on those *moral principles*, by which our gracious Creator had provided (amply provided as prior to experience we should have conceived,) against the excess of human depravity :—outrages, however, which were universal in the ancient world, and even among the graver part of the community, not disreputable.—I cannot conclude this note, without drawing one practical inference,—When the ALMIGHTY has himself vouchsafed us a remedy for the vices and weaknesses of our common nature, and when we see the state of those countries which have never enjoyed its influence, can we take any means so clearly

pure and undefiled religion. — That CHARITY originated in Christianity, and *was first practised by the Christians*, appears by the testimony of JULIAN,* their malignant and inveterate enemy: CHRISTIAN CHA-

effectual of improving those moral principles of our countrymen, on the preservation and prevalence of which depends, under divine providence, the continuance of all our other civil and domestic blessings, as by providing some systematic and effectual means FOR INCULCATING SOUND PRINCIPLES OF RELIGION AND MORALITY ON THE RISING GENERATION; and thereby supplying an antidote against that *contagion*, to which they will be necessarily exposed in after life, from the progress of luxury, and the effects of our intercourse with foreign nations. W.

* The evidence of the Emperor Julian is very curious. It is contained in a Letter from him to Arsacius; in which he recommends the example of that peculiarity, by which Christianity had been most promoted. " I MEAN
 " (says he) THEIR KINDNESS AND BENEVOLENCE
 " TO STRANGERS, THEIR ATTENTION TO THE FUNERALS OF THE DEAD, AND THEIR APPARENT
 " SANCTITY OF LIFE. . WHEN THESE GALILEANS
 " NOT ONLY TAKE CARE OF THEIR OWN BRETHREN
 " BUT EXTEND THEIR KINDNESS TO OTHERS, IT
 " IS SHAMEFUL THAT OUR PEOPLE SHOULD WANT
 " EVEN OUR OWN ASSISTANCE." This is the testimony of JULIAN, *the declared and rancorous enemy of Christianity.*

RITY, as it has been emphatically called, being first enforced by the Divine Author of our religion, and till then, a *novelty** in the world. By its influence, the mitigation of the sorrows and calamities of life, has been reduced and arranged into a system, which excludes interest, power, and sensuality; and directs the earnest exertions of the individual to the benefit of those, with

* Of the four Pagan virtues, PRUDENCE and TEMPERANCE were merely selfish, and FORTITUDE and JUSTICE were in practice confined to the narrow limits of their own peculiar community.—Compare this *barren and scanty roll of heathen-excellence* with those moral precepts, which direct us “to add to our faith, “virtue;—to virtue, knowledge;—to knowledge, temperance;—to temperance, patience;—to patience, godliness;—to godliness, brotherly kindness;—and to brotherly kindness CHARITY.”—These are qualities, calculated to promote THE GENERAL AND ESSENTIAL HAPPINESS OF MANKIND. The others looked to the insulated individual; or, at most, to some partial association.—Bands of robbers have exercised *prudence* and *temperance* in the case of themselves personally, and have displayed *justice* as to their fellow thieves, and *fortitude* in fighting for the gang; and yet the possessors of these *four cardinal virtues*, have lived in daily dread of that ignominious end,—which they have daily merited, as the pests and outcasts of society.

whom he has no other connexion than that of man with man. The co-operation of individuals for the relief of the misery, and for the increase of the happiness of their fellow creatures, has not only been extended to every class of society, and even to the animal creation ;—but it has been applied by a variety of charitable institutions, to every thing in which the interest of man can be concerned.* By these fruits of

* The fact is, that the SCALE OF MORALS in the Christian world, is different from what it was in the time of Paganism. To select from Tacitus and others *their disgusting examples of vice and cruelty*, I have neither inducement, nor inclination. I will, therefore, only refer to some of the MOST EMINENT INSTANCES OF HEATHEN VIRTUE,—Scipio Africanus, Paulus Emilius, Titus, and the elder and younger Cato.—The CONTINENCE OF SCIPIO has been a fruitful and unexhausted theme of panegyric to some writers ; and to others, from *improbable excellence*, the subject of disbelief and incredulity :—I would ask what our gallant officers would *now say* of the General, who should assume merit *for not having forcibly violated* a young Princess, whom the mere chance of war had placed in his hands ?—Or, to take the example of the best of the Roman Emperors, I would enquire what opinion the Christian world would now form of a Prince, emphatically called “ *the delight of the human race,*” who should display that indiscriminating and

genuine Christianity, the character of the reformed church is best known, and the evidence of its intrinsic purity most completely established.

Under these impressions, I shall venture
 The principles of action stated. to submit to you, as my first principle, that no plan for the improvement of the condition of the poor, will be of any avail,—or in any respect competent to its object—UNLESS THE FOUNDATION BE LAID IN THE MELIORATION OF THEIR MORAL AND

unrelenting cruelty, which TITUS exercised over the captive Jews?—or who should imitate the conduct of PAULUS EMILIUS in *Epirus*; who in one day while he was holding out the promise of peace and protection, sacked and destroyed seventy cities, and reduced to slavery 150,000 persons?—To offer only two more examples,—let us consider that language would be held to the most avaricious *slave-driver* of the present day, who, to the example of CATO THE CENSOR, should add a public avowal of *his precept*,—that, after slaves were worked as long as could be done with profit, they should be sold off, and not kept, when old and useless?—Or what would now be the public opinion of *that nobleman*, who should, like CATO OF UTICA, transfer his wife to a wealthy and aged citizen;—and afterwards, upon his death, reclaim the infamous adulteress, enriched with the dotard's testamentary plunder?

RELIGIOUS CHARACTER. The seeds of evil must be eradicated, before the soil can be enriched to advantage, and prepared to produce the abundant and acceptable harvest. This is essential to the improvement of the condition of the poor. Without it, the increase of means of subsistence to the labouring class, and even industry itself, will often administer a supply to vice, rather than a relief to necessity. Artisans may be industrious and ingenious, and at the same time profligate, immoral, and worthless, in all the relations of life. — Their profits may be doubled, or even trebled, and we have numberless instances in our manufacturing countries, and yet there may be no increase of the comforts which the artisan and his family enjoy: the frequent consequences of excessive profits, being the periodical return of idleness and inebriation, suspended only by the necessity, which goads him back to his labour.

My second fundamental axiom is, that no project respecting the poor can be admissible, IF IT TENDS TO
 ALIENATE HIM FROM HIS COT-
 TAGE, AND HIS DOMESTIC AT-

2nd. Not to alienate him from his cottage.

TACHMEMTS.—There is no principle of action more deeply engrafted in the human heart, not even the preserving instinct of self-love, than THAT AFFECTION, which unites the poor man to his cottage and family: They are endeared to him amid the snows of Nova Zembla, and the burning sands of the equator;—in the noxious marsh, and upon the sterile mountain. Incessant labour and scanty food are submitted to, so long as the mere wants of nature can be supplied, and life preserved. The cottager, unused to change of place or condition, centers all his desires in the spot where he was born, and in the family to which he has given birth. Necessity may drive him, and extraneous circumstances may seduce him, to wander to other soils, and to other climates; but the heart will be always *tremblingly alive* to the call, which summons him back to his home, and his family; and renews the sweetest sensations, which we ever enjoy in this sublunary world.

With this natural and instinctive sentiment impressed on his heart, I But to in-
crease his trust it will appear, not only to
domestic be true policy to leave him in the
comforts.

undisturbed possession of his cottage and his family, and of that impulse which nature has given him for their support and protection; but that it is *our first duty, and our nearest interest*, to sweeten and encourage his toil, and to attach him to his condition and situation. This may be done, by affording him the prospect of acquiring property;—by supplying the means of education for his children, and of religious duty and consolation for himself and his family; and by giving him occasional aid and *kind assistance*,* when age, infirmity, or any domestic calamity requires it.

In this, however, and in every thing which may be done for the poor, ^{3d.} Not to diminish the spur to exertion. we should be careful *never to remove the spur, the motive, and the necessity of exertion*. No charity which we

* It is indeed a pleasing circumstance, that those measures, which are conducive to these important objects, will tend to promote every thing which can be desired by social and civilized man. That melioration of character, which promotes the cottager's present comfort, will tend to his future happiness, and will contribute to the welfare of his wife and children,—and by example and influence, to the improvement of his neighbours. The advantages which he receives from the fostering care of government, and from the kind attention of the

can administer, can ever compensate for our rendering them helpless and useless to themselves. Their own industry, prudence, and domestic habits, far exceed in intrinsic value, MILLIONS which may be raised for their relief: and while they contribute to our national wealth and security, they all dispense comfort and happiness to those individuals, and to those families, which are blessed in their possession.

But whatever may be done for the permanent well-being of the labouring class, the fabric of human prosperity will never be so firmly established, as for man not to want the aid and kindness of man. While castles and palaces remain subject to the instability of fortune, it is vain for the cottager to claim

other classes, will help to strengthen the social tie; and to unite all the different members of the community, in bonds of brotherhood and affection. A state thus composed of a virtuous and thriving peasantry,—of cottagers, possessing property and the means and habits of improving it, will acquire a degree of consolidated and defensive strength, which depravity or indigence can never hope to attain. Every individual will then have a stake in the country. The magnitude of the stake may be different; but the general interest will be the same.

the exemption. His possessions may exceed the extent of his desires:—his cow may be in full produce, his garden cropped, his piggery flourishing, and his hives increasing;—and yet, MY DEAR SIR, in the change of a few passing hours, all this domestic affluence may vanish like a dream.—He may be in full health and vigour;—and yet a casual exposure to cold and wet, the too eager exertion of labour, or the blight of febrile infection from a source unknown, may chain him to the bed of sickness,—may exhaust all the savings of industry,—and require the constant aid and attendance of those, whose only stay and support he had been a few hours before. It is here, that benevolence should come forward, *like the invisible hand of Providence*, to sooth and sustain his sinking spirit. This is the moment that calls for PERSONAL CHARITY,—not only kindly administered, but liberally and sedulously bestowed;—so as speedily to restore his labour and utility to his family and his country.

To these three principles I have to add a fourth;—that in every measure respecting

the poor, *we should avoid, not only sudden*
 4th. To make *and rapid changes*, but unneces-
 the change sary variation in *form and man-*
 gradually, ner. There are few acts of par-
 &c. liament, which do not require time and at-
 tention, to ascertain and establish their
 meaning and construction; and there has
 been scarcely any law respecting the poor,
 that has not been the subject of doubt and
 embarrassment, even to parish vestries and
 parish officers, who are *by law appointed to*
understand them.—But to the poor, who are
 to be chiefly affected by them, *novelty* in le-
 gislation must ever be a subject of doubt
 and anxiety. Their inheritance under the
 Poor Laws, is no very valuable possession.
 But with many, it is *all* that they can call
 their own; and it must be very natural for
 them, to view with jealousy and distrust,
 any great and complicated variation, the
 motives and objects of which they cannot
 understand. I therefore submit that every
 alteration in the poor-laws, should be GRA-
 DUAL, SIMPLE, AND INTELLIGIBLE;—al-
 ways adhering to established modes and
 forms,—and leaving, if possible, an OPTION

for the cottager, to accept or decline its benefit. That which may be well and safely done by *gradual* progress, and under *present* names, may become absolutely impracticable, when attempted at once, or under a new description of character and agency.

With these impressions, I have prepared an outline* of measures, which I conceive may tend to improve the character and condition of the English poor. In every part of it, I have endeavoured, while the poor man possesses the *option* of benefiting by it, to supply the *motive* and *inducement*; and I have attempted to operate, not only by *apparent*, but by *real*

* See the Appendix, No. I.—Whilst this sheet is printing, I have the pleasure of perusing Mr. Rose's "*Observations on the Poor Laws and the Management of the Poor in Great Britain, arising from a Consideration of the Returns before Parliament.*" It is no small satisfaction to me, that the principles which I have been led to adopt on this subject, are confirmed by the opinion of a gentleman, who has devoted considerable talent and attention to the subject.—The table of returns as to the state and expence of the poor in 1803, annexed to this Pamphlet, is full of interesting information; and merits the attention of every one, who at all concerns himself in the welfare of this country.

kindness;—looking to his essential welfare, and to that of his nearest and dearest connexions. In dealing with rational and accountable creatures, *inducement* may do much to improve them, but *compulsion** can only produce apparent conformity, and systematic hypocrisy. THE DIVINE AUTHOR OF THE UNIVERSE has given us abundant motive and inducement to seek our own happiness: but *force* and *necessity* would have been inconsistent with the privileges of a *free* and intellectual being.

It is indeed conformable, not only to the Our earliest principles of Christianity, but virtues are also to those of created nature, produced by kindness. * that the most potent means of exciting moral habits, should be by *judicious and discriminating kindness and benevolence*. A similar progress of improvement

* I have already taken the liberty of observing, that MACHINERY is not at all calculated, for the governance of *rational* beings. I will venture to go further, and to assert, that it is not proper even for *living* creatures, endowed with *will and inclination*.—We do not attempt to correct the irregularities and aberrations of the horse by *pullies and levers*, but by instruction, habits of attention, discipline, and encouragement.

is natural and congenial to every individual, in his passage through this world of trial.— From the effects of that infant feeling, which at first can be deemed little more than the instinct of self preservation, we may trace the origin of the noblest and sublimest virtues. By the mere sensual impulse of the child, which looks to nothing with desire, except what supports life or gratifies appetite, the opening mind is taught to associate with its first and most pleasurable sensations, the bosom on which it has reposed, and from which it has been nourished. By this association are generated the first and most delightful of our early affections,—
FILIAL ATTACHMENT AND GRATITUDE;
 directed first to the mother,—and from her, extending to the family,—and from thence to all the connexions which are endeared to it.

The infantine impressions of self-interest, given us for self-preservation, Their further progress. are thus capable of being refined; and of becoming rational and spiritual, as the progress of moral intellect is continued; and in like manner, through the

subsequent stages of life, our selfish feelings, matured by benefits, give birth to all the most excellent virtues. The kindness of a friend, gratifying at first only our self-interest, leaves in the mind a pleasing recollection, which endears to us *for ever* the name and exercise of FRIENDSHIP. We are benefited by the liberality of others, and the seeds of GENEROSITY are planted in the breast. TO OUR DEAR COUNTRY we are indebted for protection and preservation ; and from the delightful memory of that obligation, we derive PUBLIC SPIRIT. As the heart expands, and the circle of our pleasures and duties is enlarged, that kindness which mere friendship had restricted to a few individuals, is extended to all our fellow creatures ; and the whole world is admitted to the claim of brotherhood, by the acquired virtue of BENEVOLENCE.

By checking the base and unfriendly
 Increase of our social passions of envy, jealousy, resent-
 virtues. ment, and avarice, and by culti-
 vating friendship, generosity, candour, and
 disinterestedness, the variety of gratifica-
 tions, associated with these excellent virtues,

will increase their number and power; and thus affections and habits will follow conduct and practice. The pleasure of a benevolent action will augment the desire of repeating it,—will attach the mind to benevolence,—and will gradually extinguish the malignant and selfish feelings.—Every interest we take in our friends, our benefactors, and others,—every effort we make to serve and assist them,—every affectionate wish and intention we form for their benefit,—will promote in us all the kindly affections, and will afford the best evidence of our love and gratitude to OUR HEAVENLY CREATOR.

That the social and intellectual virtues flourish and increase,* whenever Conclusion. they acquire a place and interest in the human breast, has been frequently observed. Nor has it escaped notice, that the prevalence of these virtues doth naturally elevate the mind, to the contemplation of THAT SOURCE, from whence emanates all that is good or valuable.—If *filial attachment*, gra-

* This is beautifully exemplified by Bishop Hall, in a passage quoted in a note to the Report, No. 78.

titude, friendship, generosity, and benevolence, are generated by the benefits we have received from *man*, how much more powerful will be the attraction and influence of all our more sublime affections to THAT BEING, to whom we owe our existence, and every advantage and enjoyment we possess;—to THAT BEING, from whom we are constantly receiving unmerited benefits; and on whose favour depends all that can possibly concern us;—all our present pleasures and enjoyments,—all our future hopes and expectations. These reflections will confirm the soul in habits of devotional piety, and thereby increase THE PREVALENCE OF THE MORAL SENSE. They will unite the SELFISH, the SOCIAL, and the RELIGIOUS REFLECTIONS;—so that while we are seeking our own happiness, and consulting our true interest,—we shall raise the mind to the most sublime and delightful contemplations,—we shall purify the heart from the dross of corruption of our fallen nature,—we shall increase and extend the scope of benevolence,—and produce the rich harvest of every moral virtue, which can

be acceptable or beneficial to our fellow creatures.

With every sentiment of esteem, respect,
and personal regard,

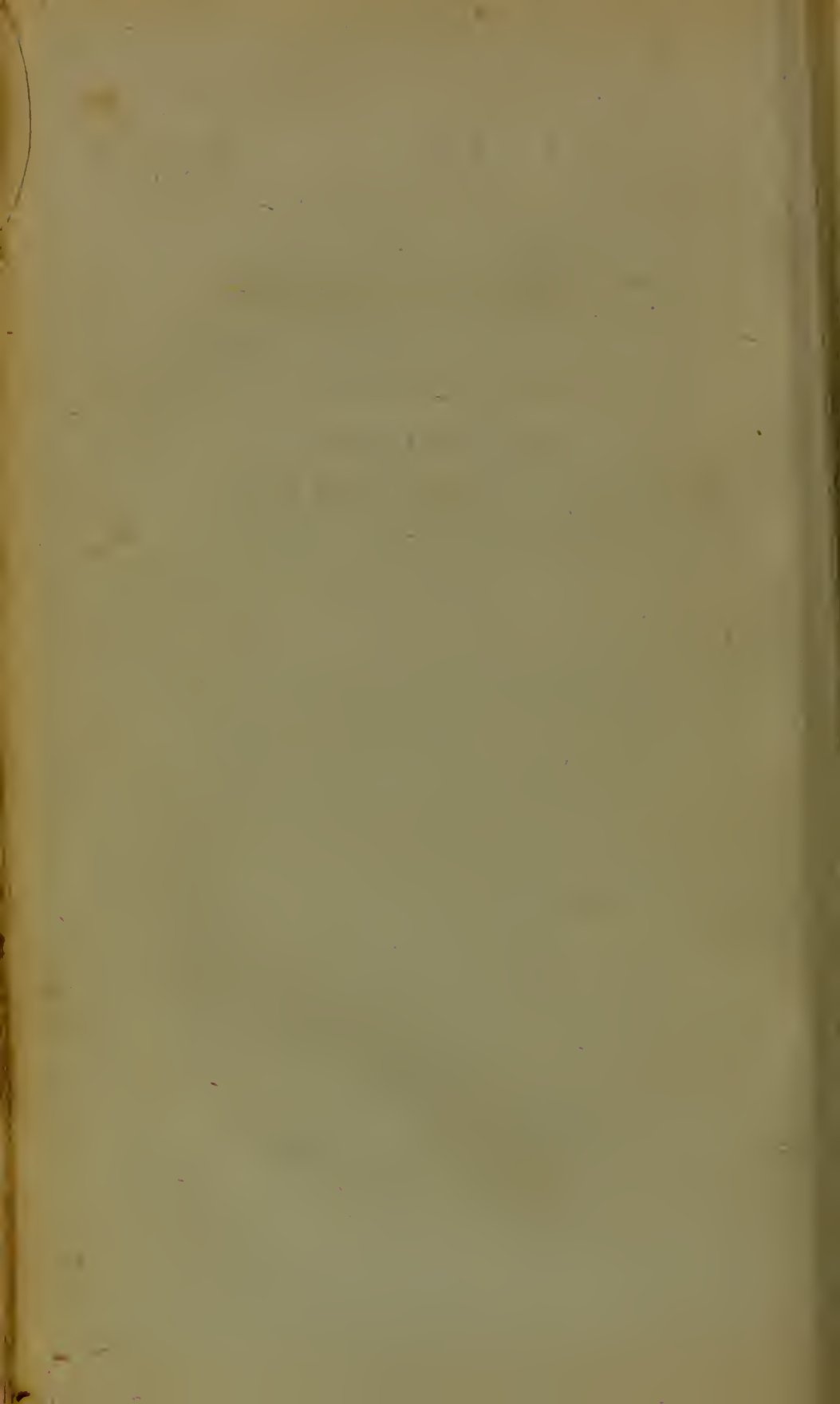
I am, my Dear Sir,

always truly yours,

THOS. BERNARD.

March 28, 1805.

WILLIAM WILBERFORCE, Esq.



No. CXXV.

Extract from an Account of the School at Campsall.

By the Hon. Mrs. CHILDERS.

THE school for poor children at Campsall in the county of York was established by three young ladies, the daughters of Mr. Frank ; who undertook, as soon as their own education was completed, to instruct at their father's house a few poor girls in reading, plain work, and knitting ; and they likewise gave them some necessary articles of clothing. They have been since induced by the solicitations both of the poor children in their neighbourhood, and of their parents, gradually to increase the number of their scholars ; and it now amounts to between sixty and seventy, all of whom they teach themselves.

On Sundays, the children attend the school in the morning and afternoon, and go regularly to church ; where they have been much noticed, on account of the neatness of their appearance, and the propriety of their behaviour. On week days, the school hours are from nine in the morning till noon, and from one till four in the afternoon. All the children are taught, reading, knitting, and plain work ; and such as appear most capable of improvement, are also instructed in writing and in accounts. Great pains are taken, to make them acquainted with the leading principles of religion and morality, and

with the peculiar duties of those useful, though humble stations in life, which it will probably be their lot to fill.

They seem in general to make as much proficiency, in the various branches of their education, as could reasonably be expected; and appear gratefully attached to their benevolent teachers; whose instructions they receive with much satisfaction, as well as docility. In these respects the distribution of little rewards* for improvement has produced so powerful an effect on their minds, as to have rendered any other method of exciting diligence, and ensuring regular attendance, almost unnecessary.

The age at which children are admitted, and the time they may continue in the school, are not fixed by any general regulations. The attendance there is perfectly voluntary: and is not expected during harvest, or at any other time when their parents can find more profitable employment for them, or particularly need their services at home. They are permitted to bring work to school, when their parents or friends can supply them with it. When they are not thus provided with employment, they are furnished with work by the ladies, and are allowed the usual price for it. This was for some years paid them in money, as soon as each article was finished; but it was determined a few months ago, to keep their earnings till the end of the year, in a box provided for that purpose, with a separate

* The plan adopted with regard to these rewards, is deserving of attention. It is published in the Appendix, No. 4.

division for each girl ; and then after deducting the payment to a female friendly society which has been established by the Miss Franks, to give the value of the remainder in some of the most useful articles of clothing ; as shifts, petticoats, &c. These they are taught to cut out, and to make at school ; for which purpose, and for knitting their own stockings, three weeks are allowed. None of the parents have expressed the slightest disapprobation of this alteration, in the manner of disposing of their children's earnings. The children themselves appear highly delighted with it. Many of them remember exactly how much money they have in the box, and are very solicitous to add to their stock. Some of them persuade their parents to pay for them the contribution to the friendly society, in order that there may not be on that account any diminution of their little hoards. It is hoped that these little hoards, besides answering their immediate purposes, will form them to habits of industry and frugality, that will continue through life ; and that many of the possessors will, when engaged in service or other business, very frequently replenish the private fund of the abovementioned friendly society, by placing in it small sums of money at interest.

These young ladies furnish their scholars with work at home, as well as during school hours ; being chiefly the making of gloves, knitting of stockings, and also shoes and socks for infants ; to which of late has been added platting of split straw.

The articles which the children make, are in a few instances disposed of to shopkeepers, but more generally to private persons, who are disposed to encourage the charity. During the summer months many are sold at Askeron; where a collection of them is kept by a poor woman, the mother of eight children, four of whom attend Miss Franks' school.

The clear profit derived from the sale of the articles made by the children, after deducting from the price received the cost of the materials and the payments to them, together with some small presents of work from a few ladies, contribute to form a fund, for providing various rewards for diligence and good behaviour in the school; and for furnishing a donation in cloths and useful books, together with a small sum of pocket money, proportioned as exactly as possible, to the length of time they have attended the school, and to their general deserts, on their becoming servants or apprentices.

OBSERVATIONS.

The foregoing account is a striking example of the effects of industry, directed to the most useful ends, and unremittingly applied. That three young ladies should by their own exertions, in a few years, form, and bring to perfection a school of above 60 girls, *conducted without the assistance of mistresses*, and regulated only by their personal superintendence (besides establishing a friendly society combined with their plain and calculated to extend its benefits), so much surpasses the ordinary effects of

benevolence, as to excite emotions of surprise when the fact is first mentioned. How much ought it to operate, in repelling the ordinary excuse of inactivity or irresolution,—the want of means or opportunity to do good? It does not appear, that any collateral circumstances of influence or situation, have given any peculiar advantages to these ladies, in the execution of their plan; but it appears to have arisen at first from a very small beginning; the establishment having been gradually enlarged to its present extent. This will afford encouragement to benevolent undertakings, that the amount of benefit ultimately to be derived from them, may very far exceed whatever could at their first outset be foreseen.

This account will also point out a mode, in which, at a very limited expense, a large establishment may, with constant attention, be conducted. It will prove how much may be effected by the exertions of those, whose moderate circumstances may place expensive contributions out of their reach:—that diligence, animated by benevolence, will create the funds, which when furnished by indiscriminating bounty are too often misapplied:—and that the labour of the poor, even among children, may be so directed, as to supply the means of their own instruction and improvement.

To ladies, whom the duties of their families or situations may preclude from undertaking an extensive plan of instruction, it affords a valuable example of the advantage of gratuitous tuition, tho

confined to a small number of children. There are few who might not effect something in this way, without too great a sacrifice to their time, or encroachment on their necessary employments; and it is impossible to calculate the effect of such disinterested benevolence, upon the feelings and habits of the poor, as well as on their improvement in useful acquirements. The respect and attention, with which poor children receive the instruction of those whose rank is elevated above their own, co-operate with the superior qualifications of these teachers in point of education or knowledge; while the gratitude, which must be inspired by such a beneficent attention to their welfare, cannot but excite them to prove themselves worthy of the patronage they have received, by a diligent practice of the virtues inculcated upon their minds.

In the detail of the plan, tho it bears evident marks of the good sense and ability with which the whole has been arranged, yet there are many circumstances which have arisen from local convenience, and which might not be applicable in different situations. The general principle of a system of rewards and distinctions of merit, constantly operating, is however in almost every possible case of the greatest importance; and has in the present been found sufficient to supersede all compulsory means of enforcing attendance, and almost to preclude the necessity of having recourse to punishment. This system may be variously modified, so as to suit different establishments, but it can scarcely

be thought possible that the vigor of the human mind should be efficaciously called into action, especially in children, but by the immediate prospect of advantage and reputation held out to them in forms suited to their capacities, and captivating to their imaginations.

1st March, 1865.

No. CXXVI.

Extract form an Account of Measures adopted to better the Condition of the Poor at Long Newnton, in the County of Wilts. By Thomas Estcourt, Esq.

THE parish of Long Newnton contains 140 poor persons of all ages, divided into 32 families, chiefly employed as labourers in husbandry. In the year 1800, an idea suggested itself, that these poor people would voluntarily exchange their claims to parochial relief, for any other aid suitable to their habits, that would yield with their labour, a better prospect of procuring the common domestic comforts of life. They were frequently consulted on the subject, and were informed that it was anxiously desired to remove them, if possible, out of the reach of the recurrence of distresses similar to those they had lately felt; that they should be furnished with the means, if they would endeavour to make a proper use of them: that it should be at their own option to accept the offer that would be made them, or not; but they were advised to make an effort to extricate themselves from that depth of extreme poverty into which they were sunk. It was then proposed that each Cottager, on his application for the same, should become tenant of a small quantity of arable land, under proper restrictions, and at a fair rent, but that no person should be allowed to occupy more than the family of such

person could cultivate, without improperly interfering with his usual labour, nor more than he could procure manure to keep in a state of high fertility; that the largest families should not therefore, occupy more than one acre and a half, the smaller families, less in proportion as their numbers were fewer, and not likely to increase.

That the rent of the land should be at the rate of 1*l.* 12*s.* per acre.*

That one-fourth part of the land in each person's occupation, should annually be well manured in rotation, and planted with potatoes; that the remainder should be managed as the tenant should think proper, except that no person should have two exhausting crops of corn (*viz.* wheat, barley, oats, rye) successively.

That the land should be forfeited to the landlord, if not cultivated and manured as above mentioned; or if the tenant should be lawfully convicted of felony, or any other offence against the law, for which he would be liable to a fine, or imprisonment.

That it should also be forfeited, if the tenant should receive any relief from the poor-rates, except medical assistance, and except such relief as the family of any tenant should receive, under the authority of any law relating to the militia, or any other Act of Parliament that might afterwards pass,

* This land was never before known to bear more than 20 bushels of wheat to an acre, under the best cultivation, and would let to a farmer at about 20*s.* per acre now.

of a similar description, for the defence of the country.

That the land should be granted, if required, for a term of 14 years; but the lease, or agreement, should be void, by either party giving the other three years notice of such avoidance.

This was the offer made to them. They entered warmly into the idea: promised every possible exertion on their part to give it success; and all accepted the offer, except two widows with numerous families of young children, and four very old infirm persons without families, who had not then courage to make the experiment.

The high price of provisions at that time, notwithstanding they all had a very liberal allowance from the poor-rate, had ran them so much in debt for the common necessaries of life (chiefly for bread), that it being deemed essential to their success that they should be freed from these incumbrances, money was advanced on loan amongst them, in proportion to their wants, amounting to the sum of 44*l*.

At Lady-day, 1801, each person entered on the first part, or one-third, of the land allotted to him: at Lady-day, 1802, they entered on one-third more; and at Lady-day, 1803, on the remainder.

The great effect this easy mode of supplying their wants has already produced in their habits, morals, manners, and condition, will be best proved by a statement of a few facts that have resulted from it.

The only persons who have received any relief

from the poor-rate of this parish, since Michaelmas, 1801, are the four old infirm persons before-mentioned (two of whom are since dead), and the two widows with large families. The two widows, rather than go with their families to a workhouse, have since requested to be put on a footing with their neighbours; and they also have received no relief since Michaelmas, 1803, when their first crop came into use: one of them has six, the other eight, small children, the eldest not 12 years of age. No person has forfeited his land; but three single men have asked leave to resign theirs, being able to subsist very well by their labour. Except these, they have all strictly and cheerfully adhered to every part of the agreement by which the land is held. There is one circumstance particularly gratifying, observable in the operation of this plan, which is, that those poor persons who have the largest families, and were the heaviest charge to the parish, are those who seem to set the highest value upon their land, and cultivate it with the greatest assiduity, and therefore the most anxious to avoid in future doing any act by which it would be forfeited. This may arise from the pleasure the parents feel in seeing their numerous children well provided with every comfort requisite to health and subsistence, independent of everyone but themselves, and a source of happiness, instead of anxiety and despair. Fruitful seasons, and a neat garden-like cultivation of the land, has hitherto rendered it highly productive. Great attention is paid to collecting manure, of which

every one is able to provide amply for the land he occupies: the hoe is actively employed, to keep the crops clean from weeds in the summer, by the women and children; who also perform the greatest part of the harvesting, and other labour, except the tillage, and carriage of the produce and manure: the tillage is partly performed by the spade, and is done by the family, or hired. If the land is ploughed, it is done partly by the ploughs of the farmers of the parish, gratis, or hired; the carriage the same, or is sometimes done by a wheelbarrow-only. They have long since discharged the debt of 44*l.* as well as all other debts, and are so much beforehand with the world, that it is supposed, that it must be some calamity, still more severe than they have ever yet been afflicted with, that would put them under the necessity of ever applying for relief to the parish again.

Some persons have conceived, that inconveniences would arise out of this very circumstance, of their being in a better situation in life than formerly; that it would put them above the necessity of labour, and would render them idle, insolent, and immoral; to which it may be answered, that, having given up all claim to parochial relief, they feel themselves obliged to look forward, and to provide against occasional distress, which stimulates them to increased industry and economy. Besides which, if with a numerous family, by the occupation of one acre and an half of land only, they can obtain more than a bare subsistence, it must be by very superior exer-

tion and frugality; and it is not likely, that what is so obtained, will be spent by the same person in vice and extravagance. In fact, three years experience proves to the contrary.

The farmers of this parish allow they never had their work better done, their servants more able, willing, civil, and sober; and that their property never was so free from depredation as at present. It may not be improper to mention, that no warrant or summons has been issued against any poor person of this parish since A. D. 1800.

Although the keeping a cow has been deemed a very beneficial practice to a poor family, yet as it is attended with some difficulties in certain situations, it was deemed right not to make it a necessary part of this experiment; but as the poor are frequently discouraged from economical practices, on account of not being able to employ to advantage any small sum of money they may save, it was proposed, in this case, that if any person could buy a cow, it should be taken in to joist (or fack, as it is there called), at 5*l.* 4*s.* per annum. One of these men has already purchased two cows. On his wife being asked how he had been able to accomplish it, she answered, that her family had always lived the same in times of plenty as they were obliged to do in times of scarcity; and being known to be a prudent, sober, hardworking family, of good character, it is probable they must have been worth money, even during the late time of scarcity, when he was receiving relief from the parish in the same propor-

tion as the others.—The circumstance is mentioned here, chiefly with a view to shew, how liable the system of relieving the necessitous poor indiscriminately with money is to corrupt their morals, and to seduce even the well disposed into fraudulent habits; an evil however which, it is hoped, this plan of rendering a resort to the poor laws for relief unnecessary, is calculated to counteract.

The others are mostly looking forward with eagerness, to being able to purchase a cow: their only live stock, at present, is hogs and poultry.

The reduction in the amount of the poor rate of the parish, since this plan has been adopted, may be worth stating; tho it is admitted, that much must be attributed to the difference in the price of provisions at the two periods undermentioned.

The amount of the poor-rate from Oct. 5, 1800, to April 5, 1801, the last six months before this plan took effect, was 21*l.* 16*s.* of which sum 20*l.* 8*s.* was applied to the relief of the poor.

The amount of the poor-rate from Oct. 5, 1803, to April 5, 1804, the last corresponding six months, was 12*l.* 6*s.* of which 4*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* only was applied to the relief of the poor.

They are allowed medical advice by the parish, and to send for the surgeon when they want him. The amount of the surgeon's bill for the year ending April 1804, amounted to 2*l.* 8*s.* only, which will probably be deemed a sufficient proof that this plan is not injurious to health. The 4*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* was charged for the maintenance of

the two poor old persons before mentioned, who are still living, and are not tenants of any land.

OBSERVATIONS.

This plan does not affect to be founded solely on principles of benevolence to the poor, or to give them any thing ; but to embrace the interests of the superior classes also. If, however, charity alone had been the object, it may perhaps not be going too far to observe, that one of the best species of charity, is that which enables the poor man to exert with effect, and with honest freedom, that strength, and those faculties, which Providence has blessed him with, for the benefit and support of his family.

If this plan should be approved, it might be carried into execution, under a system of regulations,* which would, it is presumed, tend greatly to better the condition, reform the morals and habits, promote the happiness, and increase the industry of the poor ; and to reduce the poor-rate, in those parishes where it is capable of being adopted ; that is to say, of parishes, which are not situated in cities, or large towns, and thereby precluded from the advantages of agriculture.

8th March, 1805.

* See Apendix, No. V.

No. CXXVII.

*Extract from an Account of a Cottager's Cultivation
in Shropshire By Sir William Pulteney, Bart.*

WITHIN two miles and a half of Shrewsbury, a cottager, whose name is Richard Millward, has a house, and adjoining to it a garden and land, making about one acre and one-sixteenth of an acre, including the garden. It was formerly taken from Pully Common, since divided and inclosed. He is a collier, and the management of the ground is, in a great measure, left to his wife Jane ; they have six children alive, five boys and one girl, and have buried five. The soil of this ground, when inclosed by the cottager long ago, was a thin covering of about three or four inches of strong loam over a clay, impregnated with iron, called in Shropshire catbrain, and considered as the worst soil. It is now changed, but the original soil is still to be seen in the adjoining parts of what was the common. They pay three shillings of yearly rent for the house and land ; it was leased to them thirty-eight years ago, by the present Lady Malpas, for three lives, one of which is dead.

The wife has managed the ground in a particular manner for thirteen years with potatoes and wheat, chiefly by her own labour ; and in a way which has yielded good crops, and of late fully equal, or rather superior, to the produce of the neighbouring

farms, and with little or no expense; but she has improved her mode of culture during the last six years.

The potatoe and wheat land, exclusive of the garden, contains sixty-four digging poles of land, eight yards square to the pole, seventy-five of which make an acre, and is divided in two parts; one is thirty, the other thirty-four roods. One of the divisions she plants alternately with potatoes, and the other is sown with wheat. On the wheat stubble she plants potatoes in rows, and sows wheat on the potatoe ground; she puts dung in the bottom of the rows where she plants the potatoes, but uses no dung for the wheat; and she has repeated this succession for nearly the thirteen years, but with better success and more economy during the last six or seven years.

She provides manure, by keeping a pig, and by collecting all the manure she can from her house, and by mixing with it the scrapings of the roads, &c. She forms it in a heap and turns it, before she puts it on her ground for potatoes.

The ground is dug for potatoes in the month of March and April, to the depth of about nine inches. This digging would cost sixpence per pole, if hired. After putting in the dung, the potatoes are planted in rows, about twelve or fourteen inches distant. The sets are placed about four or five inches apart in the rows.

The dung is carried out in a wheelbarrow, and

it takes a great many days to plant the whole, generally ten days.

Her husband always assists in digging, after his hours of ordinary labour. When the potatoes come above ground, the weeds are destroyed by the hoe, and the earth laid up on both sides to the shoots ; and this is repeated from time to time as the season requires. Hand-weeding is also used when necessary.

In the month of October when the potatoes are ripe, she takes off all the stalks or haulm of the potatoe, which she secures to produce manure by means of her pig. She now goes over the whole with a rake, and takes off all weeds, and before taking up the potatoes, she sows her wheat on as much of the ground as she can clear of potatoes that day. They are taken up with a three-pronged fork, in which her husband assists, and by the same operation, the wheat seed is covered deep. She leaves it quite rough, and the winter frost mellows the earth, and by the earth falling down it adds much strength and vigour to the wheat plants in the spring. Her crops of wheat have been of late always good, and even this year, which in this country has not been favourable for the wheat crop, she has thrashed out fifteen Winchester bushels from her thirty-four poles, tho part of her wheat has suffered by the mildew. The average of wheat in moderate years to her near neighbours, is twenty-eight Winchester bushels per acre, which is more than the general average of the county, being near

the town dung. The straw of her wheat she carefully preserves for litter to her pig, and to increase her manure.

When her potatoes are gathered, she separates the best for use, then a proper quantity for next year's seed, and the small sort are given to her pig. She has sixteen poles for her garden, upon which she plants peas, beans, and a part with cabbages; but has early potatoes and turnips the same year on the same ground. She sells her early potatoes and peas and cabbages at Shrewsbury, and boils the turnips for her pig. The only other expense of feeding her pig, is two or three bushels of peas, and when fit to kill, it weighs about three hundred pounds. She buys it at the age of four or five months, about the month of February, and it is killed about the month of January of the following year.

When she first began this method of alternate crops, and for several years after, she depended on the neighbouring farmers for ploughing the land and harrowing, both for the potatoes and the wheat; but as the farmers naturally delayed to work for her, till their own work was chiefly over, her land was not ploughed in proper time, or season. She has been now for the last six years independant of the farmer; and the planting the potatoes, and the mode of taking them up, is sufficient to prepare the land for wheat, which she generally sows herself about the middle of October, being careful to sow no

more land at a time, than she can clear of potatoes that day.*

OBSERVATIONS.

This mode of culture proves, that both potatoes and wheat can be produced alternately upon the same land for a long course of years, provided, that a small quantity of manure be every year used for the potatoes; and it shews that a cottager may procure food from a small portion of land by his own labour, without any expense or assistance for labour.

Both wheat and potatoes have been reckoned in

* I do not presume to offer any estimate of the national advantages, which *might be derived* from the general encouragement of *garden-husbandry* among cottagers. The benefit would, probably, far exceed any calculation, if the system were but generally adopted, of supplying this species of domestic occupation to the cottager and his family for their vacant hours.—Horticulture was the primary and original occupation of man. It is familiar and congenial to his nature; and in our soil and climate, and under the British Constitution, it is exempt from risk and danger. The speculation of industry and attention thus employed, may be more or less profitable; but it will always afford reward and encouragement to labour and exertion. The practice of it will tend to promote domestic habits,—will attach the labourer to his own possessions and family,—will supply interesting occupation for his vacant hours,—and leave no space for the dissipation and idleness of the ale-house and the tap-room.—This is not vague and unsupported theory: but practical and experimental truth; for the evidence of which we may refer not only to this account of the family of Richard Millward, but to a succession and variety of facts, stated in the four preceding volumes of the Society's Reports. B.

27th April, 1805.

the class of exhausting crops; but this mode of culture shews that great crops of both may be long alternately produced, which may probably be imputed to the culture by the spade and hoe, to the manuring every second year for potatoes, to the careful destroying of weeds, to the planting and sowing in the proper season, and to the preventing the earth from being too loose, by the mode of sowing the wheat before the potatoes are taken up.

An experienced farmer is of opinion, that the same culture and succession of crops will answer on almost any land, if properly drained and skillfully managed; for that altho strong land does not answer well for potatoes, nor very light land for wheat, yet that cultivation and manure, and particularly the manure of lime, will soon render strong land, when drained, more loose, and will make light land more firm, especially if cultivated with the spade and hoe.

5th April, 1805.

No. CXXVIII.

Extract from an Account of the Parish Schools in Scotland. By James Currie, M.D.

By an act of the King (James VI.) and privy Council, of the 10th December 1616, it was recommended to the bishops to *deale and travel* with the heritors (landed proprietors) and inhabitants of the several parishes in their respective dioceses, towards the fixing upon “some certain, solid, and sure course” for settling and entertaining a school in each parish. This was ratified by a statute of Charles I. (in the year 1633,) which empowered the Bishop, with the consent of the heritors of a parish, or of a majority of the inhabitants if the heritors refused to attend the meeting, to assess every plough of land (that is every farm in proportion to the number of ploughs upon it) with a certain sum for establishing a school. This was an ineffectual provision, as depending on the consent and pleasure of the heritors and inhabitants. Therefore a new order of things was introduced by an act passed in 1646, which obliges the heritors and minister of each parish to meet and assess the several heritors with the requisite sum for building a school-house, and to elect a school-master, and modify a salary for him in all time to come. The salary is ordered not to be under one hundred, nor above two hundred merks, that is, in our present sterling

money, not under 5*l.* 11*s.* 1½*d.* nor above 11*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.* ; and the assessment is to be laid on the land in the same proportion as it is rated for the support of the clergy, and as it regulates the payment of the land tax. But in case the heritors of any parish, or the majority of them, should fail to discharge this duty, then the persons forming what is called the committee of supply of the county (consisting of the principal landholders) or any five of them, are authorized by the statute to impose the assessment instead of them, on the representation of the presbytery in which the parish is situated. To secure the choice of a proper teacher, the right of election of the heritors, by a statute passed in the year 1693, is made subject to the review and controul of the presbytery of the district ; who have the examination of the person proposed, committed to them, both as to his qualifications as a teacher, and as to his proper deportment in the office when settled in it. The election of the heritors is therefore only a presentment of a person, for the approbation of the presbytery : who if they find him unfit, may declare his incapacity, and thus oblige them to elect anew.

The legal salary of the school-master was not inconsiderable at the time it was fixed ; but by the decrease in the value of money, it is now certainly inadequate to its object ; and it is painful to observe, that the landholders of Scotland resisted the humble application of the schoolmasters to the legislature for its increase a few years ago. The number

of parishes in Scotland is 877 ; and if we allow the salary of a schoolmaster in each to be, on an average, seven pounds sterling, the amount of the legal provision will be 6,139*l.* sterling. If we suppose the wages paid by the scholars to amount to twice this sum, which is probably beyond the truth, the total of the expenses among 1,526,492 persons, (the whole population of Scotland,) of this most important establishment, will be 18,417*l.* But on this, as well as on other subjects respecting Scotland, accurate information may soon be expected from Sir John Sinclair's Analysis of his Statistics, which will complete the immortal monument he has reared to his patriotism.

The benefit arising in Scotland from the instruction of the poor, was soon felt ; and by an act of the British parliament, 4 Geo. I. chap. vi. it is enacted, " that of the monies arising from the sale of the Scottish estates forfeited in the rebellion of 1715, 20,000*l.* sterling shall be converted into a capital stock, the interest of which shall be laid out in erecting and maintaining schools in the Highlands." The society for promoting Christian Knowledge, incorporated in 1709, have applied a large part of their fund for the same purpose. By their report, 1st May 1795, the annual sum employed by them, in supporting their schools in the Highlands and Islands, was 3913*l.* 19*s.* 10*d.* in which are taught the English language, reading and writing, and the principles of religion. The schools of the society are additional to the legal schools, which, from the

great extent of many of the Highland parishes were found insufficient. Besides these established schools, the lower classes of the people in Scotland, where the parishes are large, often combine together, and establish private schools of their own, at one of which it was Burns received the principal part of his education. So convinced, indeed, are the poor people of Scotland, by experience, of the benefit of instruction to their children, that, tho they may often find it difficult to feed and clothe them, some kind of school instruction they almost always procure them.

OBSERVATIONS.

The influence of the school establishment of Scotland on the peasantry of that country, seems to have decided by experience a question of legislation of the utmost importance,—whether a system of national instruction for the poor be favorable to morals and good government. In the year 1698, Fletcher of Saltoun declared as follows: “ There are at this day, in Scotland, two hundred thousand people begging from door to door. And tho the number of them be perhaps double to what it was formerly, by reason of this present great distress, (a famine then prevailed,) yet in all times there have been about one hundred thousand of those vagabonds, who have lived without any regard or subjection either to the laws of the land, or even those of God and nature; fathers incestuously accompanying with their own daughters, the son with the mother, and the brother with the sister.” He goes

on to say, that no magistrate ever could discover that they had ever been baptized, or in what way one in a hundred went out of the world. He accuses them as frequently guilty of robbery, and sometimes of murder : “ In years of plenty,” says he, “ many thousands of them meet together in the mountains, where they feast and riot for many days ; and at country weddings, markets, burials, and other public occasions, they are to be seen, both men and women, perpetually drunk, cursing, blaspheming, and fighting together.”* This high-minded statesman, of whom it is said by a contemporary, “ that he would lose his life readily to save his country, and would not do a base thing to serve it,” thought the evil so great, that he proposed as a remedy the revival of domestic slavery, according to the practice of his adored republics in the classic ages. A better remedy has been found, which in the silent lapse of a century has proved effectual. The statute of 1696, the noble legacy of the Scottish Parliament to their country, began soon after this to operate ; and happily as the minds of the poor received instruction, the Union opened new channels of industry, and new fields of action to their view.

At the present day there is perhaps no country in Europe, in which, in proportion to its population, so small a number of crimes fall under the

* Political Works of Andrew Fletcher, octavo, London, 1737, p. 144.

chastisement of the criminal law, as Scotland. We have the best authority for asserting, that on an average of thirty years preceding the year 1797, the executions in that division of the island did not amount to six annually; and one quarter sessions for the town of Manchester only, has sent, according to Mr. Hume, more felons to the plantations than all the judges of Scotland usually do in the space of a year.* It might appear individuous to attempt a calculation of the many thousand individuals in Manchester and its vicinity who can neither read nor write. A majority of those who suffer the punishment of death for their crimes in every part of England, are, it is believed, in this miserable state of ignorance.

There is now a legal provision for parochial schools, or rather for a school in each of the different townships into which the country is divided, in several of the northern states of North America. They are, however, of recent origin there, excepting in New England, where they were established in the last century, probably about the same time† as in Scotland, and by the same religious sect. In the protestant cantons of Switzerland, the peasantry have the advantage of similar schools, tho established and endowed in a different manner. This

* Hume's Commentaries on the Laws of Scotland. Introd. p. 50.

† It was passed in 1692. A copy of the Act is inserted in the Third Volume of the Society's Reports. Appendix, No. 10.

is also the case in certain districts in England, particularly in the northern parts of Yorkshire and of Lancashire, and in the counties of Westmorland and Cumberland.

A law, providing for the instruction of the poor, was passed by the parliament of Ireland; but the fund has been diverted from its purpose, and the measure intirely frustrated.

The similiarity of character between the Swiss and the Scotch, and between the Scotch and the people of New England, can scarcely be overlooked. That it arises in a great measure from the similiarity of their institutions for instruction, cannot be questioned. It is no doubt increased by physical causes. With a superior degree of instruction each of these nations possesses a country that may be said to be sterile, in the neighbourhood of countries comparatively rich. Hence emigrations, and the other effects on conduct and character, which such circumstances naturally produce. This subject is in a high degree curious. The points of dissimilarity between these nations might be traced to their causes also, and the whole investigation would perhaps admit of an approach to certainty in our conclusions, to which such inquiries seldom lead. How much superior in morals, in intellect, and in happiness, the peasantry of those parts of England are who have opportunities of instruction, to the same class in other situations, those who inquire into the

subject will speedily discover. The peasantry of Westmorland, and of the other districts mentioned above, if their physical and moral qualities be taken together, appear to possess a considerable degree of superiority over the peasantry of any part of the island.

1st May, 1800.

No. CXXIX.

*Extract from an Account of a Female Overseer of the
Parish of Stoke. By George Brooks, Esq.*

MRS. PARKER SEDDING, of Stoke Pogies, Bucks, widow, rents a farm of upwards of 400*l.* a year. Seeing that the state of the poor, especially in the workhouse, was in an ill condition, she consented to undertake the troublesome office of overseer; and is now, with the commendation of the justices, serving her third year in that office. The interior of the workhouse was irregular and dirty, and the poor inhabitants of it filthy and idle; and, as its distance from her own dwelling prevented her going to inspect the orderly and cleanly regulations she would establish, with that frequency which their necessity required, she voluntarily left the comforts of her own house, and lived one whole month in the workhouse. She employed the poor to clean the house throughout, and compelled them to observe cleanliness in their own persons, to fumigate the clothes and bedding in the oven, to mend the ragged garments capable of being mended, and to make what new ones were necessary; and having taken proper measures that the poor should have sufficient and sound clothing and bedding, wholesome food, instruction and employment, she left them in a state of order, cleanliness and comfort, under the charge of a careful man and his

wife, whom she had engaged to superintend the workhouse under her direction. This couple perform the offices of schoolmaster and mistress to the children, read the prayers daily with all the poor, and on Sundays read to them the Holy Scriptures. They also instruct the poor in spinning. Being unable to prevail upon the vestry to establish a parochial manufactory in the workhouse, on a scale adapted to their numbers, Mrs. Sedding has done it at her own charge, and has introduced a little manufactory of worsted. The poor have a portion of their earnings. One little boy in petticoats at the spinning wheel, earned twopence a day, and had it all for himself; and as he knew he was to be put into boys cloths when he had earned them, he was working very diligently indeed to obtain them. A little girl eight years old earned threepence a day for herself. Exclusively of these interior improvements, it should not be omitted to be stated, that, when Mrs. Sedding was named overseer, she found the poor were *farmed*. She took the care of them into her own hands, made them more comfortable, paid off the arrears of debt owing by the parish, and, notwithstanding this incumbrance, she has reduced the poors rates. Mrs. Sedding is universally allowed to be one of the best farmers, as well as best neighbours; she is a most active woman, and is continually doing good among the poor. I would submit to consideration, whether this valuable *Female Overseer*, in her sphere, is not forwarding the views of the society, and whether it

would not help to promote their humane object if the example of such an overseer of the poor were so noticed and recorded by the Society,* that it might be generally held out to the imitation of other overseers, where any excitement may be wanting to put the condition of a workhouse into better order, especially in some of the country parishes.

OBSERVATIONS.

Such an instance as the above being recorded in the Society's publications, may, it is hoped, be of service; both as an inducement to others to adopt a similar plan, or to improve upon their present systems, and as offering a merited compliment to her voluntary and laborious undertaking.

The late Earl of Rosslyn, who lived in the

* I have great pleasure in being able to add to Mr. Brooks's, my own testimony of Mrs. Sedding's merit as an exemplary overseer. In attending as a magistrate at Salt-hill, I have been a witness of Mrs. Sedding's conduct in the execution of her office, and of the success which has attended it; and I have taken an opportunity of recommending her knowledge of her duty, her care of the poor, and her attention to the true interests of her parish, as objects of imitation to the other overseers of that district. In consequence of Mr. Brooks's account, and of the corroborative testimony of Mr. Watts and myself, the Committee of the Society or bettering the Condition of the Poor, at their monthly meeting last week, came to a resolution: "That George Brooks, Esq. be requested to convey to Mrs. Sedding, the Overseer of the Poor for the parish of Stoke Pogies, the Thanks of the Committee, for her great Exertions for the benefit and improvement of the Poor of that Parish; and that a Copy of the Reports of the Society be presented to Mrs. Sedding as a testimonial of the sense which the Members of the Committee entertain of her conduct." B. 15 Feb. 1806.

parish, and took an active part in the interest of the poor, was so much satisfied with Mrs. Sedding's conduct in her office, as to request her to continue it another year, and she accordingly has served a third year. Many of the circumstances above stated are well known to others as well as to myself. At my request David Pike Watts, Esq. personally visited the workhouse at Stoke, and viewed the state of things there, since the salutary regulations introduced under the direction and through the indefatigable exertion of Mrs. Sedding.

The Reverend Arthur Bold, the Vicar of Stoke Pogies, is a frequent observer of these proceedings at the parochial workhouse, warmly commends the zeal and perseverance with which they have been carried into effect, and would, I make no doubt, be ready to allow any references to be made to him respecting them.

3d February, 1806.

No. CXXX.

Extract from an Account of the means which have been used in the Hundreds of Ongar, &c. respecting the apprenticing of the Children of the Poor. By the Reverend William Herringham, A. M.

THE magistrates having observed with concern the great increase of the poor rates, in the respective parishes within this division, were anxious to adopt some measure which might tend to the reduction of this public burden. Considering the increase of the poor rates as having arisen in part from the expense of maintaining a very large number of boys and girls, who, tho of an age to go into service, had been kept in idleness; they conceived that to carry into effect that part of the statute of 43 Eliz. chap. ii. which relates to the apprenticing of poor children, would greatly conduce to alleviate the evil so much complained of; and also to improve the morals of the lower orders of the community.

With this view they began, in the year 1801, to require from the overseer of the poor, returns of the number of children from the age of twelve years and upwards (then receiving alms from the respective parishes) who tho fit to go out to service were unemployed. From the first returns which they received; it appears that the number of children of the above description, at that time unemployed in

the fifty parishes of this division, was 581. These, the overseers were directed, to put out to apprenticeship or service. This method of providing for the children of the poor, tho sanctioned by an act of parliament, which, for more than two hundred years had been the principal guide to overseers in the management of the poor, had been so long neglected, that it now appeared like a new measure, and required some time to adjust it properly. Previous, however, to the month of April 1802, when the second return was made of the unemployed children, 242 appear to have been put out either to apprenticeship, or to some other sort of service; for the question had been repeatedly agitated by parishes at their vestries, and overseers began by this time to feel the importance of this measure.

The two first returns of the unemployed children were not so exact as was expected, and it was not till January 1803, that a regular return was made, agreeably to a printed form prepared for that purpose.* This form had been sent round

* The following is the form alluded to.

The Overseers Return of the State of the Poor Children
in the Parish of _____ made the _____ Day of _____ 180

Names of Children put out either as Apprentices or Servants.	Age.	To whom put out.	For what Term.
Residence of the Masters or Mistresses.	Names of Children fit to go out to Service, but not yet put out.		Age.

to every parish, with instructions to the overseers to fill up the same with care; and with an injunction that at their going out of office, they should give correct copies to their successors in office, that they might at one view see the state of the unemployed poor children of their parish, and might use all diligence in constantly carrying this salutary measure into effect.

By the month of April 1803, the number of children, which had been put out in addition to those which had been put out before, appears to have been - - - - 194

By the month of April, 1804, an additional number of - - - - 202

By the month of April, 1805, an additional number of - - - - 150

Thus in the course of four years 788 children have been put out to apprenticeship or service, of whom many, but for this regulation, would probably have been an useless burden to society, and many, for want of constant employment, would have been vicious and profligate. The system continues to be pursued, and there is reason to hope that it will be productive of the most beneficial consequence to the community.

OBSERVATIONS.

The provisions of the 43 Eliz. have been thought too severe for the present day, inasmuch as they require an apprenticeship of a boy and girl to be for seven years, or until they are 21 years of age,

which may be a much longer period ; a term which would in many instances be inconvenient both to the master and servant. The great object being to make the children industrious and useful, it was considered that this end might be attained by a service of a shorter duration. Accordingly it has been in some parishes adopted as a rule, that each house-keeper in his turn should take a poor boy or girl, and instruct such boy or girl in the duty or employment of a servant for one year ; or that if he found it inconvenient to take such a child himself, he should be bound to provide the child with a situation in some respectable family.

In other parishes, the same end has been attained by an apprenticeship for a short time, with a small premium paid out of the poor rates ; such persons to whom it should be inconvenient to take an apprentice in their turn, being made subject to a small fine, which fine was to be given with the child to be put out, to the person who was next in rotation to take an apprentice : and if such second person should decline taking an apprentice, the fine paid by such person, together with the former fine, was to be given to the third in rotation, and so on, till the child to be placed out was provided for. The means of carrying this measure into effect has been left to the regulation of each parish, but the system, more or less, has been adopted in all.

15th February, 1806.

No. CXXXI.

*Extract from an Account of the Bath Society for the
Suppression of Vagrants, the Relief of Distress,
and Encouragement of Industry. By J. S. Dun-
can, Esq.*

ON the 20th of January 1805, there was inserted in the Bath papers an address to the Inhabitants and visitors of Bath and its environs, requesting them to abstain from casual alms to common beggars; and, on any such application, to give a ticket referring to an office then opened “for inquiring into cases of distress, detecting imposture, and directing charity to its proper object.” A society of ladies and gentlemen was at the same time formed for carrying the plan into execution, and letters, with tickets, were printed and distributed throughout the city of Bath.

It cannot have escaped the observation of those, who have visited Bath during the season of general resort, that the streets have generally been infested with importunate beggars. Indiscriminate benevolence held out an unceasing encouragement to idleness and vagrancy: and it was too much to expect of the local poor, under the pressure of distress, that they should not join the throng of supplicants for relief; at the same time, it could not be doubted, that if all individuals would unite in the general plan, to abstain from casual alms, and to give

tickets of reference to an office of inquiry, the views of the impostor would be frustrated, and the fraudulent and criminal would shrink from investigation, and abandon a place where a strict inquiry would be made into character and circumstances.

A committee was appointed, consisting of 24 members, who in rotation attend at the office. A Committee of Ladies directs the best mode of relief in female cases. A room has been hired in a central part of Bath, where one of the Committee attends on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, from 12 to 2, to receive applications, and register cases. The intermediate days are devoted to inquiry into the cases which have been registered. A beadle, employed by the Society, examines the streets of Bath twice a day, and makes an immediate report of any case of mendicity, which comes within his notice.

It has appeared, not only from respectable information, but even from the testimony of the mendicants themselves, that the houses at which they commonly procure lodgings, are so conducted as to destroy all sense of decency; men, women, and children being crowded together, passing the night in the same apartment, and exhibiting a continued scene of riot and debauchery. The cases of travellers, alleging inability to proceed on their journey, from sickness or other cause, have been inquired into; those, who have not appeared as common mendicants, have had immediate relief; and where it appeared that they had come from a distance,

with a fair expectation of obtaining employment at Bath, they have been assisted in returning home. Many have received aid in sickness and distress; and the greater part of these have surmounted their difficulties without parochial relief, cherishing at the same time the love of independence and the motive to industry.

Small sums have been advanced on loan to poor persons, in cases of sudden calamity, when repayment by instalments has appeared practicable. The benefit of the Lying-in Charity has been extended, and it is proposed to employ the methods, recommended by the London and Manchester Societies, for prevention of contagious fever; and to purify the apartments of those who are afflicted by malignant and infectious diseases. If any person receiving temporary relief from the Society, is found begging, further relief is suspended. In addition to the reward of ten shillings, granted by 17 Geo. II. to any person apprehending and conveying a rogue and vagabond before a magistrate, the Society allows, on conviction, a further premium of five shillings from the funds of the Society. The number of applicants, from the 20th of January to the 20th of April 1805, were 211; of whom about a fifth were vagrants and impostors, two-fifths parochial cases, since relieved by the parish, and the remainder composed of cases of real distress, effectually relieved by the Society.

In supplying the relief of this charity, the greatest difficulty of investigation seems to have attended

the cases of vagrants. At Bath however, even where the evil was general and inveterate, the inconveniences do not appear to have been very considerable. Gross and palpable imposture has been detected; and notorious vagabonds has been conveyed by the constable to the magistrates, to be dealt with according to law. Of about 110 vagrants who have applied, there have been only 10 doubtful cases; above 20 have been dismissed as impostors; and the remaining 80 have received small donations, which were proportioned to the apparent exigency of the case, and have been so applied, that about £17. distributed among more than 90 petitioners, have been perfectly adequate to the object. The visitors have, at the same time, continued to remind those who let lodgings to vagrants, of the penalties inflicted by the 17th Geo. II. on those, by whom persons legally removed, shall be again harboured.

But the principal attention has been paid to the cases of the *resident poor*, whether legally settled in Bath, or resident out of their respective parishes. Where the law provides an immediate and adequate remedy, or parochial relief has been already obtained, no pecuniary contribution (except in cases of sickness) is made on the part of the Society: but it has appeared that advice and assistance, with regard to the manner and ground of applying for relief, has been often greatly needed and usefully bestowed. Those who claim parish relief must, if required, return to their parish in order to obtain it. This is frequently attended with great aggra-

vation of distress. In sickness it is always painful, sometimes dangerous, and the application is seldom made in time. Severe distress will be encountered, before those who possess *any degree* of comfort at home, will submit to be crowded into a common apartment with the filthy and the profligate.

The periodical fluctuation of the opulent inhabitants of Bath, enables many to subsist with ease and comfort during the greater part of the year, who during the remainder are wholly without employment or subsistence. Of these some belong to distant parishes, and the greater part want that prospective prudence, which ought to provide for stagnation of employment. In cases of sickness, and still more in the calamity of infectious disease, their distress becomes deplorable. During the summer of 1805, the small pox* raged as a pestilence through Bath and its neighbourhood; and the members of the Society, engaged in visiting the sufferers under this infectious disease, have witnessed scenes of wretchedness and filth, which would even excite horror in the description.

During this violent prevalence of the small pox, applications from the poor have been frequent and urgent. The visitors have sedulously combated the prejudices of the poor against the inoculation of either

* Upon reference to the Bills of Mortality of the year 1805, it will appear that the prevalency and mortality of the small pox have been greatly increased; a circumstance to be imputed to the prejudices so industriously disseminated against vaccination, and to an extreme and increased carelessness as to the communication of the infection of the small pox. B. 6th March, 1806.

kind; and have particularly endeavoured to induce them to protect their families from infection, according to the mildest method, by accepting of the liberal offer held forth by the JENNERIAN SOCIETY of this place.

With a view to the encouragement of industry, a Special Committee has been formed for the purpose of considering the best means of providing employment for those who, from natural infirmity or casualty, are unable to earn a maintenance. This has been attended with a considerable degree of success; and at the same time there has been formed at Bath, upon the principles which Mrs. Cappe has detailed in her observations on charity schools, and under the patronage of Lady Isabella King, a HOUSE OF PROTECTION for the education of young women in the various branches of domestic economy, with a view to making them virtuous and useful servants.

The number of cases examined into during nine months, ending the 20th of September 1805, were 440. Of these 95 have been rejected, as not having claim to relief; 39 have (with some temporary aid) been recommended to their parishes; and 135 poor persons of Bath, and 171 of other and more distant settlements, have been effectually relieved from temporary distress.

A list is kept by the Society, of washerwomen, charwomen, &c. wanting employment, several of whom they can recommend in the strongest manner. The books, containing a detail of the cases of all the applicants, are open to the inspection of the

public ; and the very few mendicants, either 6 or 7 individuals, who have perseveringly continued in their occupation at Bath, notwithstanding sufficient relief afforded them, are noticed in the Society's last Report, as being now no longer objects deserving of Charity.

The balance in hand in September 20, 1805, was £168. 6s. 3d. after an expenditure* of £357. 6s. 11d. ; which has been enhanced by the several

* The Reader may possibly be desirous of referring to the following Account of the Monies disbursed by the Society, from January 20, to end of September 1805.

	£.	s.	d.
To the Ladies, for purchasing 6 sets of child-bed linen, at £3. 3s. each set, which poor women known to the Society have been employed to make up ; and which have already been sent to 21 married women in child-birth, who would otherwise have been destitute of such necessaries : likewise for providing necessary sustenance in such cases ; thus extending the benefit of Mr. Norman's excellent charity :—also for the purchase of various articles of clothing, such as shirts, shifts, flannel petticoats, and waiscoats, against the winter ; together with sundry other aids, more particularly under the Ladies department	64	13	6
To sundries printing. This article is unavoidably much higher at the commencement of such an institution than it will be afterwards	40	18	3
To various sums lent to poor people, to be repaid by weekly instalments. These			

Carried forward 105 11 9

petty expenses incident to a new institution, by the purchases of 6 sets of child-bed linen for lying-in women, and by some other incidental charges: an

	£.	s.	d.
Brought forward	105	11	9
repayments have in general been very punctually made; as will sufficiently appear, when it is considered that the Society only commenced this practice in April last, that the weekly instalments never exceed 1s. 6d. and are generally not more than 1s. per week; that some interval is usually allowed before their commencement; and that the sum already repaid amounts to £10. 2s. 10d.	-	-	-
To soup-tickets and potatoes, which the Society distribute, as much as possible, instead of money	38	1	0
To the beadle's wages, including some additional charges incurred at Hetling-House, at the commencement of the institution	23	10	1½
To the beadle, for ten vagrants apprehended and convicted, at 5s. each, as an additional reward to that which the law already grants	25	2	6
To expended by Mr. Newland, our medical inspector, in visiting and assisting with medicine 231 cases, wherein many, it is believed, would otherwise have languished without any assistance whatever	2	10	0
To subscribed by the Society to the Dispensary	15	18	11
To ditto to the Humane Society	3	3	0
To Taylor, a poor man, who suffered by the fire in Grove-street	5	5	0
Carried forward	211	7	3½

expenditure, which has given relief to 345 persons, has checked mendicity, encouraged industry and exertion, and increased the value of *character*, in that

	£.	s.	d.
Brought forward	211	7	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
To more than 40 cases, visited by a nurse hired by the Society, and relieved with various necessities, under the small-pox		9	8 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
To Mrs. Harris and Mrs. Jackson, for instruction of 20 children in making patten ties, at 2s. 6d. per week each, from June 4 to end of September: the children from 8 to 12 are thus enabled to earn immediately 1s. 2s. and sometimes more per week		4	5 0
To premiums to the two best children in the patten-tie business, at 3d. each per week		0	8 6
To vagrants and other travellers, with notice immediately to quit the town. About 50 vagrants, the greater part common beggars and impostors, and more than 60 travellers, have by these means been induced immediately to quit the town, many of whom would otherwise have remained here confirmed mendicants. The Society can venture to affirm, that although new strangers may be occasionally seen, very few indeed of those so assisted and warned to depart have since returned		17	2 0
The remainder of the disbursements, amounting to £101. 15s. 11d. has been expended in weekly allowances, donations, premiums in the button-making school, &c. When it is considered that 61 poor persons, belonging to distant			

Carried forward 244 11 0

great city, and at the same time has suggested a more unexceptionable mode of relief, for the distress to which human nature is subject in this period of trial and probation, than any that has been as yet discovered.

OBSERVATIONS.

Persons unaccustomed to inquire minutely into the distresses of the poor, are apt to form false judgments respecting them, tinctured with the opposite extremes of sympathy and severity; of sympathy, which considers not the effect of habit; and of severity, which presumes that no aggravated cases can occur, which are not anticipated in this country by legal and adequate relief.

Whatever may be the estimate of the gains of

	£.	s.	d.
Brought forward	244	11	0
parishes, whose difficulties of obtaining prompt parochial relief were manifestly great, and that more than 120 of the poor belonging to Bath have thus been enabled to struggle through their temporary calamities, without throwing themselves on their parishes, and are now mostly returned to their former habits of industry; and when to this is added the conviction that the money so bestowed would otherwise probably have been lavished in supporting idleness and profligacy, and thus filling the town with beggars; it is trusted that the public will feel the value of such an institution, and continue to support it with renewed contributions and persevering co-operation	101	15	11

Total disbursed 355 6 11

mendicants in their wretched and forlorn situation, and however small that pittance may be, we shall probably find that the most miserable beggar costs the community much more, than the total of the relief to be supplied them on the plan of the Bath Society. It appears by the late Parliamentary Returns, that the expense of paupers in workhouses is nearly four times as much as in their own cottages ; and by Mr. Rose's observations on the Poor Laws, (page 36) it appears that the extra expense of those individuals, who are shut up in workhouses, is not less than 9*l.* a head ; a national loss, (independant of other circumstances) of near a million a year. But the relief and support of the common mendicant is far more wasteful and expensive, than that of the parochial pauper ; and the constant example of individuals fed and maintained without their own personal labour or action, produces on the minds of the labouring poor, a continual check to industry and exertion.

17th February, 1805.

No. CXXXII.

Extract from an Account of the Apprenticing of the Children of the Poor, in Devonshire. By the Rev. Duke Yonge.

THE magistrates of the county of Devon, have of late paid a particular attention to the execution of the 43d of Elizabeth, respecting the apprenticing of the children of the poor. By this statute the churchwardens and overseers, with the assent of two justices, are vested with a power of binding out the children of such persons as they shall think unable to maintain them, until the age of 21 years ; and by subsequent acts, power is given to the magistrates to watch over and protect them when so bound.

The practice recently adopted in Devonshire, is for the churchwardens and overseers to meet, and according to the value of the estates, &c. to settle what masters shall take apprentices ; upon which if any question arises, it is decided by the justices, and generally by ballot. Previously to the children being apprenticed, they appear before them agistrates ; whose duty it is to inquire, whether they are fit for the situation in respect of health, strength or age, and whether there are any objections to the master in point of character, or previous conduct to any former apprentice. The children are properly clothed when they are apprenticed ; and if

during their apprenticeship, there occurs any just ground of complaint as to misusage, the magistrates exercise a summary power of redress. As the children are generally placed out in the same, or in an adjoining parish to that in which their parents reside, they continue in some degree under their parents eye ; and any well founded complaint is easily made, and soon redressed. Their work is not disproportioned to their strength. They are better fed, better clothed, and kept more clean than they could have been at home : they are bred up to hardy employment, and have generally the appearance of health and comfort.

The justices at quarter sessions have made an order for the overseers to ascertain, that these apprentices attend regularly upon public worship, and that their names are called over after service, and a quarterly return made to the justices of the division, as to their conduct and situation. Very great benefits have been produced by this excellent regulation. It operates in the way of preventive justice ; while, at the same time, it trains up the children to religious habits. Clothing and necessary food can hardly be withheld, in any considerable degree, from those, who are placed every week before the eyes of the minister and overseers, and of the whole congregation of the parish. It is much to be regretted that such a regulation is not adopted throughout the kingdom, with a summary power to regulate and enforce its execution.

The poor themselves, who are accustomed to see

the execution of this law, consider it as very beneficial to their children. As a proof of it, great part of the children have been apprenticed at the request of their parents. At the same time viewing the subject in a moral and political view, it seems to be of the greatest importance, that children should be placed under the control of masters, whose interest it is to train them in habits of virtue and industry. The country is thus furnished with a hardy race of peasants, bred to agriculture, the most useful of all arts, and one of the most essential to the existence of every country. At the same time it has been a general observation, that the moral and religious habits of the Devonshire poor have been improved by the newly adopted system of apprenticing their children, a system which while it possesses the authority of law, has now the sanction of experience.

OBSERVATIONS.

The complaint of want of hands to cultivate the ground has been frequently made. It is certainly of the utmost importance to every country, that, if possible, it should raise the corn for its own consumption: and in proportion to the number of children employed in manufactures, it will be more and more our concern to provide for the cultivation of the ground; especially at a time when in many counties, a very great number of the children are employed in manufactures; and their health impaired, their lives shortened, their morals injured,

and the agricultural interests of the country materially prejudiced.

Employment however, even under disadvantages, is better than idleness; and therefore, while we notice the objections to crowded and unregulated manufactories, we should not forget that children remaining *idle and unemployed* in the houses of their parents, are not likely to be improved, or to become useful and virtuous members of society. The placing them out in the world, will therefore continue to be an essential act of policy, until those domestic advantages shall be given the cottager, which the examples of the Earl of Winchilsea, the Bishop of Durham, and others have contributed so much to recommend, as a general system for the country: I mean the advantages of small portions of ground,* with encouragement to keep cows, pigs, bees, and other objects of domestic attention and employment; so as to supply the cottager's family with profitable occupation, to afford him easy and plea-

* If cottagers families could be employed in GARDEN HUSBANDRY, without interruption of the cottager's daily labour, the benefit to them and to the country, and the advantage of breeding up children so as to be industrious and useful, would exceed all calculation. At the Bishop of Durham's at Mongewell, he has allotted a little plot of ground, for the adjoining cottagers to cultivate, according to their means and industry. The produce of the preceding summer upon half a rood of this ground (the rent being two shillings and sixpence) is as follows:

Five gallons and a half of turnip seed, at 5s.

per gallon	-	-	-	-	1	7	6
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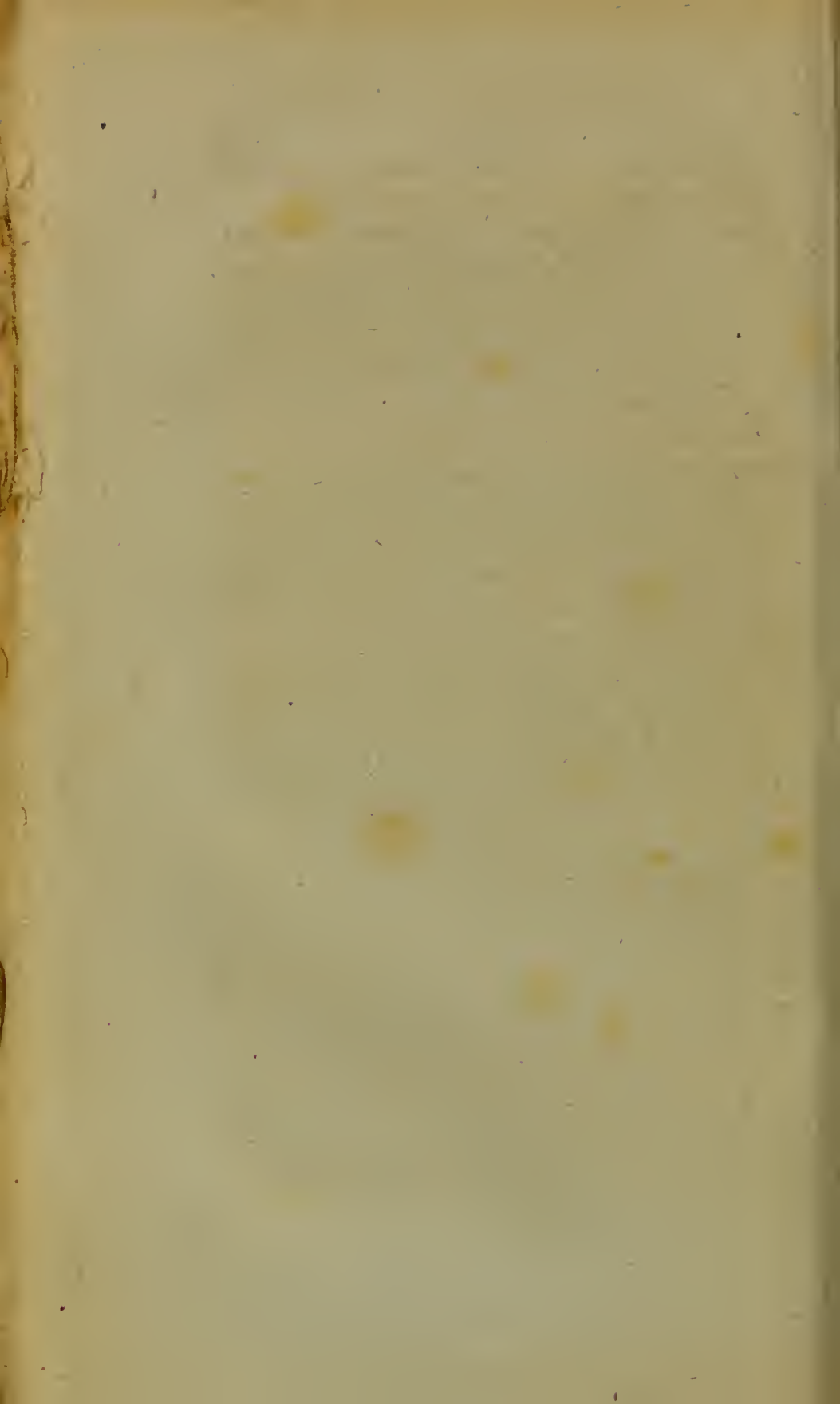
Six sacks of potatoes	-	-	-	-	1	10	0
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And also pease and cabbages for the use of the cottager and his family. 7th Nov. 1805.

sant employment for his leisure hours, and to train up and habituate his children to agriculture.

This would do much.—What more is wanted for this object, must be derived from the establishment of MARITIME SCHOOLS, to which those parishes, who have not otherwise a proper provision for the education of their poor children, shall be obliged to send them, at an allowance nearly adequate to their cost in the workhouse. This is a measure which has been suggested by Mr. Rose, and which would be of infinite benefit to this country, if properly arranged and executed, as affording the means of rescuing our parish children from vicious and idle habits, and training them up to agriculture, or to the navy ;—so as to produce an annual supply of hardy and disciplined youth for the cultivation of our soil, the extension of our commerce, and the defence of our country.

18th February, 1806.



No. CXXXIII.

*Extract from the Rev. Mr. Clarkson's Account of the
System of the Quakers, with respect to their Poor.*

By THOMAS BERNARD, Esq..

THESE are few parts of the Quaker-constitution, that are more worthy of commendation, than that which relates to their poor. All the members of this Society, are considered as brethren, and as such entitled to support from one another. If our streets or our roads be infested by objects imploring pity, no Quaker will be found among them. A Quaker-beggar would be a phænomenon in the world.

It does not, however, follow from this account, that there are no poor Quakers, or that members of this society are not born in a dependent state. The truth is, that there are poor as well as rich; but the wants of the former are so well provided for that they are not publicly seen, like the wants of others.

The Quakers of the present day, consider their poor in the same light as their venerable elder; namely, as members of the same family, whose wants it is their duty to relieve, and they provide for them nearly in same manner. They entrust this important concern to the monthly meetings, which are the executive branches of the Quaker-constitution. The monthly meetings ap-

point four overseers, two men and two women, over each particular meeting within their own jurisdiction, if their number will admit of it. It is the duty of these to visit such of the poor as are in membership; of the men to visit the men, but of the women sometimes to visit both. The reason why this double burthen is laid upon the women-overseers is, that women know more of domestic concerns, more of the wants of families, more of the manner of providing for them, and are better advisers and better nurses in sickness, than the men. Whatever these overseers find wanting in the course of their visits, whether money, clothes, medicines, or medical advice and attention, they order them, and the treasurer of the monthly meetings, settles the different accounts.* I may observe here, that it is not easy for overseers to neglect their duty; for an inquiry is made three times in the year, of the monthly meetings by the quarterly, whether the necessities of the poor are properly inspected and relieved. I may observe, also that the poor, who may stand in need of relief, are always relieved privately, I mean at their respective homes.

It is however, possible, that there may be persons, who, from a variety of unlooked for causes, may be brought into distress, and whose case, never having been suspected, may be passed over. But persons

* In London a committee is appointed for each poor person. Thus, for example, two women are appointed to attend to the wants and comforts of one poor old woman.

in this situation, are desired to apply for assistance. It is also a rule in the Society, that even persons whose conduct is disorderly, are to be relieved, if such conduct has not been objected to by their own monthly meeting. "The want of due care," says the Book of Extracts, "in watching diligently over the flock, and in dealing in due time, with such as walk disorderly, hath brought great difficulties on some meetings; for we think it both unseasonable and dishonourable, when persons apply to monthly meetings for relief, in cases of necessity, then to object to them such offences as the meeting, through the neglect of its own duty, hath long suffered to pass by, unproved and unnoticed."

The poor are supported by charitable collections from the body at large; or, in other words, every monthly meeting supports its own poor. The collections for them are usually made once a month, but in some places once a quarter, and in others at no stated times, but when the treasurer declares them necessary, and the monthly meeting approves. Members are expected to contribute in proportion to their circumstances; but persons in a low situation, and servants, are generally excused upon these occasions.

It happens in the districts of some monthly meetings, that there are found, only few persons of property, but a numerous poor, so that the former are unable to do justice in their provision for the latter. The Society have therefore resolved, when the poor are too numerous to be supported by their

own monthly meetings, that the collections for them shall be made up out of the quarterly meeting, to which the said monthly meeting belongs. This is the same thing as if any particular parish were unable to pay the rates for the poor, and as if all the other parishes in the county were made to contribute towards the same. On this subject I may observe, that the Quaker-poor are attached to their monthly meetings, as the common poor of the kingdom are attached to their parishes, and that they gain settlements in these, nearly in the same manner.

As the Quakers are particularly attentive to the wants of the poor, so they are no less attentive to the education of their offspring. These are all of them to receive their education at the public expense. The same overseers, as in the former case, are to take care of it, and the same funds to support it. An inquiry is therefore made three times in the year, into this subject. "The children of the poor," says the Book of Extracts, "are to have due help of education, instruction, and necessary learning." The families also of the poor are to be provided with Bibles, and the books of the Society, at the expense of the monthly meetings. And as some members may be straitened in their circumstances, and may refuse out of delicacy to apply for aid towards the education of their children, it is earnestly recommended to friends in every monthly meeting, to look out for persons who may be thus straitened, and to take care that the children shall receive in-

struction ; and it is recommended to the parents of such, not to refuse this salutary aid, “ but to receive it with a willing mind, and with thankfulness to the great Author of all good.”

When the boys have received their necessary learning, they are usually put out as apprentices to husbandry, or trade. Domestic service is generally considered by the parents as unmanly, and as a nursery for idleness. Boys too, who can read and write, ought to expect, with the accustomed diligence and sobriety of Quakers, to arrive at a better situation in life. The girls, however, are destined in general for service ; for it must be obvious, whatever their education may be, that the same number of employments is not open to women as to men.—Every Quaker-boy or girl, who comes into the world, must, however poor, if the discipline of the Society be kept up, receive an education. All, therefore, who are born in the Society, must be able to read and write. Thus the keys of knowledge are put into their hands. Hence we find them attaining a superior literal and historical knowledge of the Scriptures, a superior knowledge of human nature, and a knowledge that sets them above many of the superstitions of those of their own rank in life.

Another trait conspicuous in the character of the Quaker-poor, is the morality of their lives. This circumstance may easily be accounted for. For, in the first place, they are hindered, in common with other Quakers, by means of their discipline, from

doing many things that are morally injurious to themselves. The poor of the world are addicted to profane swearing. But no person can bring the name of the Creator of the universe, into frequent and ordinary use, without losing a sense of the veneration that is due to him. The poor of the world, again, frequently spend their time in public houses. They fight and quarrel with one another. They run after horse-racing, bull-baitings, cock-fightings, and the still more unnatural battles between man and man. But, by encouraging such habits, they cannot but obstruct in time, the natural risings of benevolence, both towards their fellow-creatures, and to those of the animal creature. Nor can they do otherwise than lose a sense of the dignity of their own minds, and weaken the moral principle. But the Quaker-poor, who are principled against such customs, can of course suffer no moral injury on these accounts. To which it may be added, that their superior knowledge both leads and attaches them to a superior conduct. It is a false, as well as a barbarous maxim, and a maxim very injurious both to the interests of the rich and poor, as well as of the state to which they belong, that knowledge is unpropitious to virtue.

OBSERVATIONS.

I have extracted the preceding account from Mr. Clarkson's Portraiture of Quakerism; a work that cannot be perused without interest and

improvement.—If we are ever to succeed in the amendment of our pauper system, and in the reduction of our poor-rates, it must be by measures similar to those which Mr. Clarkson has here detailed, and which have been so eminently successful among the Quakers. It must be by melioration of character, originating in vital religion, and by education, the basis and foundation of all civil improvement. To the reasons which I have offered in favour of such a system, in the beginning of this volume, I beg leave to add the foregoing statement by Mr. Clarkson, as a practical commentary.

We are considerably indebted to the Quakers, in point of finance. We receive tithes and church-rates from them, while they support their own religious establishments and places of worship: we levy the poor's-rate upon them, while they maintain and educate their own poor; and they pay taxes, at the same time that they renounce all claim to every species of official or public emolument. Such, however, is the irresistible power of industry and prudence, and such the advantage of a general system of education, that they thrive and prosper under all these disadvantages.

To the Quakers, however, we owe a still greater obligation, for having afforded a practical example of the wisest and most benevolent system, which can be adopted with regard to the poor. If ever we should have the good sense and virtue to follow it, if we should ever be able effectually to carry a similar

plan into execution throughout the British dominions, it will do more for the happiness and stability of the country, than if we had added millions to our domestic wealth, and new and unexplored regions to our foreign dominions.

12th Nov. 1806.

No. CXXXIV.

Extract from an Account of the Retreat for old Age at Chaillot, near Paris. By THOMAS EDWARDS FREEMAN, Esq.

THE Retreat for old Age at Chaillot, is most beautifully situated, about two miles from Paris; commanding an extensive view of the city, the Seine, and the *Champ de Mars*. In the establishment* there are nearly one hundred aged persons, male and female, whose countenances indicate an unusual degree of happiness and contentment. The chambers occupied by the female part of the society, compose the right wing of the house. Each has a bedchamber to herself exclusively: and there is one sitting room appropriated to two females. Their clothing, if required, is found them. The left wing of the house is occupied by the males, who are distributed in the same manner as the females, each having a bedroom to himself, and a common parlour being allotted to two persons; in which they receive the visits of their relatives and friends, without the inconvenience of being obtruded upon by strangers. A husband and wife have a room also to themselves.

The previous contribution of a monthly subscription, is the indispensable condition of admittance to

* This account is extracted from Mr. R. Yorke's Letters from France.

this asylum. Every subscriber must pay regularly and punctually ten-pence per month from ten till thirty years of age ; fifteen-pence per month from thirty to fifty ; and twenty-pence per month from fifty to seventy. These different payments will amount to £45. which must be completely made up before a person can acquire the right of admission. Hence, if any one of more than ten years of age, should offer as a subscriber, he or she must deposit, at the time of subscription, and according to his or her age, the sum which would have been paid if the subscription had commenced at ten years old. In order to give encouragement to benevolence, all persons who are disposed to subscribe, may transfer their right to as many persons as they have made subscriptions ; subject to the condition, that the person who is to be benefitted by the transfer, shall be nearly of the same age as the benefactor, and that he shall not be admitted before the attainment of seventy years of age, and payment of the sum of £45. This transferred subscription is extinguished by the death of the substitute. The funds are placed on securities, and are subjected to an administration, which is said to be in every respect safe and undeniable.

Their diet corresponds with the neatness and simplicity of their apartments. At one o'clock dinner is served up in the hall for the Society ; and at seven they again assemble at supper. Besides a sufficient quantity of meat and vegetables, each person is allowed a pound and a half of bread, the

men a bottle of wine, which is of the thin weak beverage of the country ; and the women half a bottle daily.

In case of sickness they are removed to a particular part of the house, which is used as an infirmary ; where they are provided with medical assistance, and experience every possible attention. In case of their decease, they are decently interred in the neighbouring church, at the expense of the society ; or elsewhere, if desired, at the expense of their friends.

Their time is at their own disposal. They may employ themselves in any profitable occupation, provided it does not interfere with the general rules and government of the house. Several females are engaged in needle work for their friends and families. What little pecuniary emoluments they acquire by their industry, supply them with pocket money..

There is no unreasonable restriction on their amusements ; they are entirely their own masters. They are all, more or less, engaged in religious exercises. There was a charm in this retreat, which imagination only can picture to the mind. At that period of life, when both mind and body require repose, when it is necessary that old age should abstract itself from the busy hum of men, and "walk pensive on the silent solemn shore of that vast ocean it must sail so soon," what can be more consolatory than the consciousness of having a retreat, where in consequence of the exertions of

former industry, infirmities are relieved, wants are supplied, and religious duties provided?

The benefits of this institution are open to every one as a matter of compact and purchase, and not of favour or solicitation. It offers the means whereby, after the attainment of seventy years, or in case of infirmity at an earlier period of life, the industrious and prudent may secure a peaceful and comfortable asylum; always acceptable to them, because it is of their own acquirement; and at the same time beneficial to the public, because it is the prize of that prudence and that industry which, while they confirm and reward the good habits of the possessor, afford example and inducement to other persons, in similar situations.

OBSERVATIONS.

The tendency of this institution is to encourage prospective prudence in the poor; habituating the subscribers to apply in a provision for old age, that portion of their earnings, which might otherwise be wasted and lost. It differs from the constitution of almshouses and hospitals, for the aged and unfortunate, in this respect, that the party is not indebted to the compassion or liberality of others; but purchases the possession of this freehold interest for the close of life, by his own industry and economy in the active part of it. The acquirement is the act of the individual, and the result of his own care and foresight. Instead of checking or paralyzing, it has the effect of encouraging industry. It

offers the sure means of providing against that species of adversity, from which old age, which is destitute of any certain provision, can seldom hope to be exempt.

There is probably no country in the world, where provisions of this kind would be so practicable, and so useful, and yet at the same time where it would require so much arrangement and management, as in England. In manufactures, in some instances in agriculture, in domestic service, and in the army and navy with that increase of pay which has been so well merited, individuals are enabled in the early and middle stages of life to do much for themselves. Those who do not contract early marriages, have it generally in their power to make a prospective provision for old age. And if inducement and means were supplied them, they would make this prudential application of their weekly surplus, instead of consigning it to the alehouse or spirit shop. I am not unaware that friendly societies are directed to the same end; but it is too obvious that many of them are deficient in security, and that others are perverted and abused, and must be perpetually liable to perversion and abuse, in the hands in which the government of them is placed.

To prevent intricacy and confusion in the plan, it would be expedient to confine the different establishments to the limits of parishes, or at least of united districts: and to give security to it, it would be necessary to make the parochial funds responsi-

ble for any deficiency, at the same time that they should be intitled to the surplus arising from the funds. And in order to make it practicable, the general list of persons receiving an allowance out of the house, should be considered as out-pensioners, receiving a certain annuity, and intitled to come into the domestic establishment whenever vacancies should occur.

In fact, this retreat for age and infirmity, would not much differ from that,* which has been proposed in a former number of these Reports; and which also made a part of Mr. Pitt's plan for the relief of the poor. The answer to the general objection to such a measure may be here repeated:—that though some deficiency in the funds might eventually occur, “ the expense of providing for that deficiency could never amount to a tenth part of what is now incurred in supporting aged, infirm, and widowed pensioners, who have had no inducement to adopt a system of saving, and of providing for themselves.”

* See Appendix to 25th Report, p. 4.

10th Nov. 1806..

No. CXXXV.

Extract from a further Account of the School for the Indigent Blind, at Liverpool. By THOMAS BERNARD, Esq.

THE establishment of the Liverpool school for the blind, has been reported in one of our former numbers. It is a subject of great satisfaction, that continued attention, and judicious arrangement, should in this instance, have been attended with such eminent advantage and success. Since the first establishment of the school, 291 persons have been admitted. Of these, who came into it a burthen to themselves and useless to mankind, the greater part have gone out capable of earning, or nearly earning, their own livelihood. At the end of the year 1804, there were 75 pupils in the school; and 20 more were admitted in 1805; principally from Lancashire and Yorkshire, but some from other English counties, or from Wales, or Ireland. In the same year, 1805, 20 pupils quitted the school. Seven of these had received but little benefit from the Institution; four have left the school with the power of contributing considerably to their own maintenance; and the other nine* are much more capable

* These blind persons are comfortably settled in business for themselves. John Davis, Robert Clough, Egerton Stott, and Joseph Davy, are basket makers; Adam Hampson, Joseph Williamson, and William Graham, weavers; and Henry Galley and James Smith, are organists of churches, and teach music.

of supporting themselves comfortably in the world, than the generality of the labouring class.

The scope and power of this charity has been greatly increased by the general rule adopted and adhered to, that (except in cases of day-scholars, when the pupils are maintained by their friends or parish) an allowance must be made to the charity for their board in the house. The sum received for these allowances in the preceding year amounted to £338. 5s. 2d. which makes a considerable addition to the means and support of the establishment. In order to secure the regular payment of this allowance, the Governors have found it necessary to require the half year to be paid in advance ; and that some respectable inhabitant of Liverpool, should become responsible to the committee, for the regular half yearly payment of such allowance in future.

Numerous applications have been made for the admission of blind infants ; and many persons have erroneously supposed that the blind were to be boarded, lodged, and maintained, at the expense of the charity. The Committee has therefore been obliged to give notice, that this Institution is merely A SCHOOL for teaching the blind useful trades, and occupations, by which they may be enabled to earn their livelihood ; and that children of less than twelve years of age, cannot be admitted, except under very particular circumstances.

OBSERVATIONS.

It is a very gratifying occupation to trace the progress of the streams of benevolence through a country, which derives from them the increase of every moral and religious virtue, and reaps the rich harvest of industry, contentment, and piety. Few more pleasing examples of this are to be found, than in the Liverpool school for the blind ; and the instances are rare, in which the general rules have been more wisely framed, or more strictly adhered to. The patronage of the Committee of the Liverpool School for the blind, would be greatly extended by the gratuitous admission of applicants, at the Committee's discretion, and without any reimbursement or restriction : but this would be attended not only with prejudice to the funds, but even to the administration and credit of the charity ; which might not merely be liable to the reputation, but would most probably be subject to the actual existence of a job, if incumbered by such a patronage. The Governors of the Liverpool school have therefore so arranged their charity, that it does not relieve the burthen of those liable to support the blind, otherwise than by gradually bettering their condition, and enabling the blind to support themselves ; leaving however, in the mean time the *onus*, where the laws of nature or of the state have placed it, until that desirable effect has been produced ; and thereby stimulating their friends to assist in their improvement.

This principle, if applied to every other charitable or pauper establishment in this country to which it is applicable, would double,—I might say, would give a fourfold increase to their power and effect. When once it became a *general interest*, that the usefulness, the well-being, and the morals of the poor should be improved, one-fourth part of our present parochial and charitable funds would be more than adequate to the objects.

2d Nov. 1806.

No. CXXXVI.

Extract from an Account of the Execution of Criminal Law in Pensylvania. By THOMAS CLARKSON, M. A.

WHEN criminals have been convicted, and sent to the great gaol of Philadelphia to undergo their punishment, it is expected of them that they should maintain themselves out of their daily labour; that they should pay for their board and washing, and also for the use of their different implements of labour; and that they should defray the expenses of their commitment, and of their prosecutions and their trials.* An account therefore, is regularly kept against them; and if, at the expiration of the term of their punishment, there should be a surplus of money in their favour, arising out of the produce of their work, it is given to them on their discharge.

An agreement is usually made about the price of prison labour between the inspector of the gaol and the employers of the criminals.

As reformation is now the great object in Pennsylvania, where offences have been committed, it is of the first importance that the gaoler and the different inspectors should be persons of moral character. Good example, religious advice, and

* This Account is also extracted from Mr. Clarkson's *Portraiture of Quakerism*.

humane treatment, on the part of these, will have a tendency to produce attention, respect, and love on the part of the prisoners, and to influence their moral conduct. Hence it is a rule, never to be departed from, that none are to be chosen as successors to these different offices, but such as shall be found on inquiry to have been exemplary in their lives.

As reformation, again, is now the great object, no corporal punishment is allowed in the prison; no keeper can strike a criminal; nor can any criminal be put into irons.* All such punishments are considered as doing harm. They tend to extirpate a sense of shame; they tend to degrade a man, and to make him consider himself as degraded in his own eyes: whereas it is the design of this change in the penal system, that he should be constantly looking up to the restoration of his dignity as a man, and to the recovery of his moral character.

As reformation, again, is now the great object, the following system is adopted.* No intercourse is allowed between the males and the females, nor any between the untried and the convicted prisoners. While they are engaged in their labour, they are allowed to talk only upon the subject which immediately relates to their work. All unnecessary con-

* As cleanliness is connected with health, and health with morals, the prisoners are obliged to wash and clean themselves every morning before their work, and to bathe in the summer season, in a large reservoir of water, which is provided in the court-yard of the prison for this purpose.

versation is forbidden. Profane swearing is never overlooked. A strict watch is kept that no spirituous liquors be introduced. Care is taken that all the prisoners have the benefit of religious instruction. The prison is accordingly open at stated times to the pastors of the different religious denominations of the place. And as the mind of man may be worked upon by rewards as well as by punishments, a hope is held out to the prisoners that the time of their confinement may be shortened by their good behaviour: for the inspectors, if they have reason to believe that a solid reformation has taken place in any individual, have a power of interceding for his enlargement, and the executive government of granting it, if they think it proper. In cases where the prisoners are refractory, they are usually put into solitary confinement, and deprived of the opportunity of working. During this time the expenses of their board and washing are going on; so that they are glad to get into employment again, that they may liquidate the debt, which, since the suspension of their labour, has been accruing to the gaol.

In consequence of these regulations, they who visit the criminals in Philadelphia in the hours of their labour, have more an idea of a large manufactory than of a prison. They see nailmakers, sawyers, carpenters, joiners, weavers, and others, all busily employed. They see regularity and order among these. And as no chains are to be seen in the prison, they seem to forget their

situation as criminals, and to look upon them as free and honest labourers of a community, following their respective trades.

In consequence of these regulations, great advantages have arisen both to the criminals and to the state. The latter has experienced a diminution of crimes to the amount of one half, since the change of the penal system; and the former have been restored, in a great proportion, from the goal to the community, as reformed persons, for few have been known to stay the whole term of their confinement. But no person could have had any of his time remitted him, except he had been considered, both by the inspectors and the executive government, as deserving it. This circumstance of permission to leave the prison before the time expressed in the sentence, is of great importance to the prisoners; for it operates as a certificate for them of their amendment, to the world at large. Hence no stigma is attached to them for having been the inhabitants of a prison. It may be observed, also, that some of the most orderly and industrious, and such as have worked at the most profitable trades, have had sums of money to take on their discharge, by which they have been able to maintain themselves honestly, till they could get into employ.

OBSERVATIONS.

Such is the state, and such the manner of the execution, of the penal laws of Pensylvania, as founded upon Quaker-principles. So happy have

the effects of this new system already been, that it is supposed it will be adopted by the other American states. May the example be universally followed! May it be universally received as a truth, that true policy is inseparable from virtue; that in proportion as principles become lovely on account of their morality, they will become beneficial when acted upon, both to individuals and to states: or that legislators cannot raise a constitution upon so fair and firm a foundation as upon the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

I shall trespass upon the patience of the reader in this place, only till I have made an application of these principles, or till I have shewn him how far these might be extended, and extended with advantage to morals, beyond the limits of the Quaker Society, by being received as the basis upon which a system of penal laws might be founded among larger societies or states.

It is much to be lamented that nations possessing Christianity, should have ever lost sight, in their acts of legislation, of Christian principles: or that they should not have interwoven those principles into the system of their penal laws. But if this negligence or omission would appear worthy of regret, if reported of any Christian nation, it would appear most so, if reported of our own; where one would have supposed that the advantages of civil and religious liberty, and those of a reformed religion, would have had their influence in the correction of our judgments, and in the benevolent-

dispositions of our will. And yet nothing is more true than that these good influences have either never been produced, or, if produced, that they have never been affectually attended to upon this subject. There seems to be very little, or no provision for religious instruction, in our numerous prisons. We seem to make no patient trials of those who are confined in them, for their reformation; but, on the other hand, we seem in some instances, to hurry them off the stage of life, by means of a code which annexes death to two hundred different offences. And it is remarkable that this system should be persevered in, when we consider that death,* as far as the experiment has been made in our own country, has little or no effect as a punishment for crimes. Forgery, and the circulation of forged paper, and the counterfeiting the money of the realm, are capital offences, and are never pardoned. And yet no offences are more frequently committed than these. And it seems still more remarkable when we consider, in addition to this, that in consequence of the experiments made in other countries,

* I could wish (says the benevolent HOWARD, Vol I. p. 42) that no persons might suffer *capitally*, but for murder—for setting houses on fire—or for house-breaking attended with acts of cruelty. The highwayman—the footpad—the habitual thief, and people of this class, should end their days in a penitentiary house, rather than on the gallows. “That many cart-loads of our fellow creatures are once in six weeks carried to slaughter, is a dreadful consideration; and this is greatly heightened by reflecting, that with proper care and proper regulations much the greater part of these wretches might have been made not only happy in themselves, but very useful members to society.”

it seems to be approaching to an axiom, that crimes are less frequent in proportion as mercy takes the place of severity, or as there are judicious substitutes for the punishment of death.

I shall not inquire how far the right of taking away life on many occasions, which is sanctioned by the law of the land, can be supported on the ground of justice ; or how far a greater injury is done by it, than the injury the criminal has himself done. As Christians, it seems that we should be influenced by Christian principles. Now, nothing can be more true, than that Christianity commands us to be tender-hearted one to another, to have a tender forbearance one with another, and to regard one another as brethren. We are taught also that men, independently of their accountableness to their own governments, are accountable for their actions in a future state, and that punishments are unquestionably to follow. But where are our forbearance and our love,—where is our regard for the temporal and eternal interests of man,—where is our respect for the principles of the Gospel,—if we make the reformation of a criminal a less object than his punishment ; or if we consign him to death in the midst of his sins, without having tried all the means in our power for his recovery ?

14th Nov. 1806.

No. CXXXVII.

*An Extract from a further Account of the London
Fever Institution. By THOMAS BERNARD,
Esq.*

IN the preceding year, ending the first of May, 1807, there were 93 fever patients admitted into the House of Recovery in Gray's Inn Lane.* During the months of August and September, 1806, febrile infection was more prevalent than it had been for some time in the metropolis. Above a third of the fever patients of the year were admitted in those two months: but in the majority of those cases, the symptoms were mild, and the termination favourable. After that period, however, and more especially in the early part of the present year 1807, fevers, tho less numerous, were more malignant; extending rapidly to all who were exposed to the influence of the contagion; and if neglected, or injudiciously treated in the commencement, proving very frequently fatal, notwithstanding every subsequent attention. By this cause, and by another that will be stated, the proportion of mortality upon the fever cases in the house, has been much increased.—Eighty fever patients have been recovered and restored to their friends; and 14 have died in the preceding year.

* This statement is taken from the annual Report of the Institution.

In one instance, a whole family, consisting of five persons the father, mother, and two children, and the nurse who had been sent by the parish to attend them, were admitted at the same time. The father and mother had been ill 10 or 11 days, and both died within two days after admission; the two children and the nurse, who had been recently attacked, recovered. It will probably occur to the reader, that if, instead of sending a *parish nurse* to the family, the parish officers had procured the two parents immediate admission to the House of Recovery, the lives of the father and mother, and the sickness and sufferings of the nurse and children, would have been saved,—at the same time, the danger of the diffusion of febrile contagion in the parish would have been prevented, and (what is of less moment) a considerable part of the expense avoided.

In another instance five young people in one family had been seized with fever. Two of them had died, before any application was made to the Institution: of the others, two were admitted, and recovered. In a third instance, a family of six persons, a father, mother, and four children, all occupying one room in a dirty court in the Strand, were found labouring under fever at the same time, having been successively attacked within a few days of each other. The father and one child were in a state of convalescence: the mother and the three remaining children were received into the house, and restored to health.

Cases, however, of contagious fever have not been confined to the habitations of the poor. Four of the patients in contagious fever, received during the preceding year, were the domestics of persons in a respectable rank of life; one of them a servant in a family in one of the great squares of the metropolis. Many other instances, in which contagious fever has found its way into the mansions of the opulent, have come within the notice of the Institution. Its utility therefore is not confined to the poor. For it not only contributes to stop the progress of contagion from its source; and, by cleansing and purifying the habitations of those who are most subject to it, to prevent its diffusion among the other classes of the community; but it also affords the higher ranks an open and comfortable asylum for their domestics, when attacked by contagious fever, and thus ensures the safety of the family and their connections.

The cleansing of the houses, furniture, and clothes of the poor where febrile infection has existed, is one of the most important benefits of the Fever Institution. This cannot be properly and effectually done, without the removal of the patients either into the House of Recovery, or to some other place. The lime-washing has been sometimes objected to by the occupiers, or the landlords, and in some few instances has been thought to be unnecessary. It has however been applied whenever permission was given, and any contagion was apprehended. Thirty houses have been lime-washed by

the Institution in the preceding year; and these and all the other habitations of fever patients have been cleansed and fumigated.* The success of this process has been equal and unvaried. No second application for admission into the House of Recovery, has ever been made from any apartments, where the lime-washing, cleansing, and fumigation have been completely applied.

While we endeavour to appreciate the value of this part of the preventive system, and consider that it has been found, that, upon an average every patient in fever, where no attention is paid, infects five other persons, it is to be lamented that applications to the House are seldom made in the *early part* of the disease. Many persons have been admitted during the preceding year, in a state quite hopeless; the chief object being to save the rest of the family, by removing the *cause* of infection. It is thus that the average mortality of the fever patients lately admitted has been increased, and the period of convalescence for those who have recovered, have been extended to an alarming degree. This dilatory conduct of the poor is caused in part by a despond-

* It may not be improper to describe the process of fumigation, which is extremely simple, and easily performed. Take an equal quantity of powdered nitre and strong vitriolic acid, or oil of vitriol, (about six drams of each is sufficient); mix them in a tea-cup, stirring it occasionally with a tobacco-pipe, or piece of glass; the cup must be removed occasionally to different parts of the room, and the fumes will continue to arise for several hours. The oil of vitriol should be in quantity, not weight.

ing apathy, which claims our most affectionate commiseration: but it has its source also in an unfounded and destructive prejudice, which we should labour to counterwork;—that *the disease must take its course, until its power is spent*. Whereas hardly any thing is more brief in its duration, more mild in its effect, or more exempt from danger, than common febrile contagion, if the patient is free from other disease, and a remedial process is immediately and properly employed. A single affusion of cold or tepid water has been found entirely to extinguish the infection, and to restore health to the patient, if applied on the second or third day of fever.

The reader should be apprized that there is no assurance of a speedy cure, in the cases of confirmed dram-drinkers; for with them, contagious fever generally terminates fatally: nor yet in those cases, happily not frequent, of a peculiar malignancy of contagion, which baffles all the efforts of human skill. But in the great number of instances, if an application were sent to the House of Recovery immediately on the discovery of infection, and the family removed and the habitation purified,—and, in addition to this, if landlords and parish officers would make a little more inquiry into the state of the habitations of the poor in the metropolis, and afford some improvement to the means of cleanliness and *ventilation*, we should have little to apprehend from infectious fever in London.

The cost of the benefits which the Fever Insti-

tution has conferred on the metropolis in the preceding year has amounted to £510. 13s. 4d.; while the annual income of the year, with all the active exertions of the Treasurer and other friends (including benefactions and two parochial payments) has only reached to £537. 18s.; being twenty-seven pounds four shillings and ten-pence more than its necessary and economical expenses. This seems to imply, either that the rich are not very attentive in this instance to the sufferings of the poor, or to their own safety; or, which I verily believe is the case, are not aware of the usefulness and excellence of the Institution. The contribution of a guinea would hardly be withheld by *any housekeeper* of moderate fortune in the metropolis, who duly appreciated the value of the establishment and the advantages resulting from it; and knew how much the safety and welfare, not only of the labouring class but of all other members of the community, depend upon it. To the helpless and insulated poor its doors are open constantly and gratuitously: and when a parish pauper is sent in by the overseers, there is a parochial contribution of two guineas; being the average extra expense of each patient; an expense (including all considerations of danger) much less than any patient in fever can ever cost the parish. It is referred to the consideration of those families whose servants are admitted into the house, whether, unless they are subscribers, they should not adopt the parochial

precedent, and acknowledge the admission by a donation of two guineas for each patient.

There are two reasons, one or other of which may have had effect with some individuals, to prevent their subscriptions to the Fever Institution. The first, and the operative one, seems to be, that the economical plan on which this institution is formed, and the impartiality with which it is administered, exclude all PATRONAGE. There are no earnest calls to be expected for a Governor's *vote* and *interest*, or for his *proxy*,—to exonerate some opulent individual from the support of a superannuated and helpless dependant;—and there is, therefore, less of *personal consequence and personal interest*, to be acquired by a subscription to this charity. This objection, however, I trust will not weigh with my readers. And, even if it did, it is so creditable and so useful a feature of this institution, that, in good truth, I do not wish it to be removed.—The lives which have been saved, the infection which has been checked, and the habitations which have been purified, in the metropolis in the preceding year, for the sum of £510. 13s. 2d., would have required above three times that amount, had the charity been put upon the PATRONAGE ESTABLISHMENT.

Another cause has been supposed by some to have operated, as an impediment to subscriptions. It is that Parliament has lately voted the sum of £3000. for the purpose of laying the basis of a permanent establishment of this kind in the me-

tropolis; either by parochial arrangement, or by preparing a local establishment, which may be the object of individual subscriptions. This however, if properly considered, should rather operate as an inducement for benevolent individuals to come forward and co-operate with government, by giving present and immediate support to a charity, so essential to the welfare of the community; and leaving the other fund to be applied in the only mode in which it can be properly applied, to *perpetuate* the advantages of the fever institution in the metropolis, and to secure its future existence.

By the speedy removal of persons affected by contagious fever, and by their apartments, clothes, and furniture, being cleansed, and fumigated, two very important advantages are obtained, which are not within the regulations of other public hospitals. The first is, that patients being* admissible at all times, without recommendation being required, the disease may thereby be checked in its commencement, and speedily removed: —the other, that, by the care which the Institution extends to the infected apartments of the sick, those who are not already infected may escape the contagion; and those who, in restored health, return from the House of Recovery to their families, will avoid the danger of renewed infection on their return home.

* It is requested that notice of cases of fever be sent without loss of time, to the physician, when the patients will be visited. If they have already been attended by a medical practitioner, a certificate from him, stating the case to be *typhus*, will ensure immediate admission.

As benevolent individuals who may interest themselves in the present subject, may wish to know the Regulations of the Institution, I proceed to state, that the qualification of a Governor of the Establishment is the subscription of a guinea a year, or of 10 guineas in one sum:—that poor persons labouring under infectious fever and resident in the metropolis, are freely and gratuitously admissible at all times into the House of Recovery:—and that upon notice of any such fever patient to the Physician of the Fever Institution (DR. BATEMAN, No. 16, *Featherstone Buildings, Holborn,*) or to the House of Recovery, No. 2, Constitution Row, Gray's Inn Lane, the patient may be immediately admitted by Dr. Bateman's order. For the removal of fever patients to the House of Recovery, and for preventing the danger (hitherto very general and often destructive) of spreading the infection by removing persons with contagious fever in *hackney coaches*, a chair of a peculiar construction, and fitted up with a moveable lining, is provided; in which persons, ordered to be removed into the House, are carried there at the expense of the Institution.—To this brief account of the Regulations it may not be improper to add that, in cases where the Physician may find the removal of a fever patient to be unnecessary, tho every apparent symptom of fever may have ceased in any dwelling, proper precautions, however, are not neglected; but (if the occupier permits) the apartments are always cleansed and white washed, the infected

bed clothes and apparel purified or destroyed, and all other proper measures adopted for stopping the progress of contagion, and for preventing the renewal of its malignant and fatal effects

OBSERVATIONS.

We have unexceptionable authority* for stating, that the infectious and malignant fever has not only been a prevalent and fatal evil among the poor of the metropolis, but has, at almost all periods, insinuated its baneful poison into the habitations of the higher orders. In order to prevent this danger (from which no class of the community can claim exemption) HOUSES OF RECOVERY have been lately established in different parts of the United Kingdom. Their history is to be found in the preceding Report† of the Society. To Dr. Haygarth of Chester, and Dr. Percival and Dr. Ferriar of Manchester we are indebted for the first example of this useful charity, produced in the town of Manchester, in the year 1796. For its extraordinary effects in checking the progress of contagion, and in diminishing the proportionable mortality by infectious fever, I must refer the reader‡ to the papers already published in the Reports.

* See the certificate of the Physicians of Hospitals and Dispensaries in London. Vol. III. Appendix, No. 8.

† See Reports, No. 13, 58, 92, and 108; and several papers in the Appendix.

‡ See the Reports already referred to: and also the notes in Appendix to Volume II. and III. and the papers No. 8 and 9, in Appendix to Vol. III. and No. 3, 13, and 14 in Appendix to Vol. V.

The average number of deaths by fever in the metropolis in the preceding century, has considerably exceeded 3,000 annually. In some years above 4,000 persons have perished, within the bills of mortality, by this disorder; but since the establishment of the Fever Institution, this fatal calamity has been considerably diminished. The six years of the present century have produced an average of only 1966: and in the preceding year 1806, the number has been reduced to 1354. As to the comparative mortality of Fever Patients, it appears to have been as high as one in four* prior to the establishment of Houses of Recovery. In the *Houses of Recovery* it has *since* been from one in eleven, to one in eighteen. In the preceding year the mortality in the House of Recovery has been increased, by the peculiar malignancy of the febrile infection during the winter months,—and by delay in the application to the House; some fever patients having been admitted in the very last stage of disease not from any hope of recovery, but merely

* The mortality by fever in London, during the present century, is as follows:

In 1801	—	2908
In 1802	—	2201
In 1803	—	2326
In 1804	—	1702
In 1805	—	1307
In 1806	—	1352
In 1807	—	1033

This *regular diminution* of deaths by this disorder, since the establishment of the Houses of Recovery, is curious and striking. 15 Jan. 1808.

† See the papers before referred to.

with the desire of preventing the diffusion of febrile infection.

We may however confidently congratulate our countrymen, on an evident and important diminution in the prevalence of contagious fever, having been produced in the metropolis, during the last six years: and tho it would be injustice not to consider the Fever Institution, as having been instrumental in producing those beneficial effects, yet there are other favourable causes, which call for our serious and grateful consideration. The removal of the infected patient in the first stage of the disorder, the purifying of his habitation, and his restoration to health and to the comforts of an healthy dwelling, must have produced considerable effects among the poor: and the cleansing systematically and effectually some of the most infected parts of the metropolis, from whence the House of Recovery had previously experienced a regular influx of fever patients, a measure which was adopted and executed six years ago, may be reasonably supposed to have potently operated in securing the metropolis from febrile contagion.

Besides this, the instruction which the poor have received by benefits thus conferred on them,—the printed directions that have been generally circulated as to the treatment of fever patients, and also as to the separation of them from other families, and from the other branches of their own family, — and the cleansing and purifying of their dwellings, furniture and clothes, where the contagion of

fever may have existed,—these, and the charitable co-operation of benevolent individuals in various parts of the metropolis, must all have contributed to the diminution of febrile infection.

- There are however, I repeat, other causes, upon which the serious mind will meditate with devotion and gratitude:—a succession of healthy and kindly seasons, and of rich and abundant harvests, —and THE FAVOUR OF HEAVEN, mercifully bestowed on a nation, unworthy indeed of the blessings it enjoys, yet, I trust, daily improving in religious and moral feelings and habits. Cold, indeed, and insensible must those creatures be, who are not moved and affected by the contemplation of the awful events,—from which, while the fairest parts of Europe have been desolated and laid waste, our own happy Island has been, hitherto *miraculously* preserved.

15th October, 1807.

No. CXXXVIII.

*Extract from an Account of Vaccine Inoculation in
the neighbourhood of Buckingham. By the Rev.
J. T. A. REED.*

IN March 1800, having previously informed myself of the safety and efficacy of the cow-pock, I began to inoculate my two parishes, Leckhamstead and Akeley, near Buckingham. I was induced to do this at that particular time, because the Grand Junction Canal was in its progress to my immediate neighbourhood; and, like every other great work employing vast bodies of men from distant quarters, would probably introduce the small-pox. It was my wish, that the labourers of these parishes should have the benefit of the high wages given on such occasions, without being exposed to the danger of that dreadful pestilence.

Having been in the habit of administering medicines to the poor, my offer to inoculate them was very generally accepted; and especially, as most of these people are employed in milking. The common answer of such persons to my proposals was, “we all know that nobody ever died of the Cow-pock, and we all know that nobody ever had the Small-pox after it; but what an odd thing it is, that any body should think of inoculating with it.”

I had no intention of proceeding in this practice beyond my own parishes; but I was soon applied

to by a Clergyman, to whom I have been more than twenty years, Curate, to inoculate at Green's Norton, near Towcester, the Small-pox having broke out in two families. I readily consented, on condition that he would prepare the minds of the people, to whom I was but little known. In this he met with opposition; and in the result, about 500 persons were inoculated with the Small-pox, and 28 by me, with the Cow-pock.

I started the same day as the hired inoculator. On the eighth I inspected the parties, and finding that they were all decidedly infected with Cow-pock, I desired them to give what assistance they could to the people, who were falling very fast with the Small-pox, and in great distress for nurses; two hundred, at one time, being in a helpless condition. Of these 28 patients of mine many slept with Small-pox patients, and even with some, who died in a most dreadful condition.

The neighbouring villages were satisfied with this test, and in the following month I inoculated more than 1000 persons, who were apprehensive, that a very great fair at Towcester, on old May-day, would spread the Small-pox over the whole surrounding country.

On the application of Clergymen and other respectable inhabitants, I have inoculated, within ten miles of my residence, upwards of 4700 persons, many in situations greatly exposed to infection.— In the autumn of 1804, the Small-pox raging among the people employed at the tunnel of the Grand

Junction Canal, I inoculated in the neighbouring towns of Stoke, Bruern, Shuttlehanger, and Paulerspury, 570. In the summer of 1805, I inoculated 270 at Potterspury, the Small-pox being at that time in two houses of the village.

In the whole of my practice I have avoided accepting any fee or present, except in two instances, where I had no choice,—I therefore think myself intitled to the credit of disinterested evidence, when I make the following declarations :

1st. After a practice of more than six years, no instance has occurred of any one inoculated by me, being afterwards infected with the Small-pox.

2dly. I never, during that period, have seen a single arm, that required surgical assistance ; or any other dressing, further than a little oil, or milk and water.

3dly. I never knew an instance of a life being endangered, or a taint left in the constitution, by the Cow-pock. On the contrary, I can produce persons, who date a period of health, unknown before, from the turn of the Cow-pock ; the disease having apparently a tendency to cleanse the constitution.

If any candid person wishes to be more fully informed, let him devote a fortnight to the full investigation of this statement on the spot ; I promise him the use of my lists, and recommendations to fit persons in every parish, where I have set my foot : and this is the only method I adopt for supporting the above assertions ; as local benefit to my

neighbours has been my object, and not public fame or emolument.

OBSERVATIONS.

The preceding facts are laid before the public, for the further satisfaction of those, who may have been disposed to entertain doubts of the efficacy and success of Vaccine Inoculation: If it shall operate to remove their scruples, and to confirm others in their good opinion of that *inestimable blessing*, the object of the Society will be completely answered. It is a most extraordinary circumstance, that England, which has the honour of the discovery, should be the only country upon earth, in which any effort has been made to undervalue its advantages, and to check the extension of its beneficial effects. It is, indeed, wonderful that in the most enlightened nation upon earth, calumny, chicanery, and *caricature*, should have been united in co-operation, and not without some success, to prejudice the minds of the poor and ignorant, and of the weak and infirm, against the adoption of the most important and useful discovery which has been made in the annals of civilization.

The religious scruples of the Hindoos,* and the rooted prejudices of the Chinese,† have offered no

* By the last official returns from Madras, dated 1st. Sept. 1806, it appears that 500,000 *Hindoos* in that Presidency only, had already accepted the benefits of Vaccination. One hundred and seventy-eight thousand persons have been vaccinated in Madras in the preceding year; and 429,821 had received the Cow-pock there before that time.

† A Vaccine Institution has been established at Canton;

obstacle to the diffusion of Vaccination. France, Germany, Russia, and the other European states, the distant regions of Mexico and Peru, the tribes of the North American Indians, and the savage hordes of Africa, have all accepted the JENNERIAN DISCOVERY with willingness and gratitude. The contagion of the Small-pox is already nearly annihilated, in many of the capital towns of Europe ; whilst *in the Metropolis of the British Isles*, the seat of Science and the Arts, the Temple of Liberty and Benevolence, *Variolous Infection* has been promoted and disseminated, and hundreds of valuable lives have been thereby sacrificed, and for ever lost to their country and their friends.

5th June, 1807.

and natives, instructed in Vaccine Inoculation, are travelling as Missionaries, carrying through that immense region the benefits of the *Jennerian* discovery.

No. CXXXIX.

*Extract from an Account of a Society for Insurance
of the Cows of Cottagers, &c. By the Rev.
FRANCIS WRANGHAM.*

ON the 12th of May 1807, the establishment of a society for the insurance of the Cows of cottagers, and other subscribers, took place in the neighbourhood of Scarborough. It had for its model a similar association which had been adopted, on an extensive scale, and with striking success, in the north part of Lincolnshire, where it had been ascertained by experiment, that the average payment of three half pence per cow per week (or six shillings a year) would be sufficient to replace the ordinary losses of cows by death.

As similar institutions may be useful in other parts of England, we offer the reader an account of this Society, tho yet only in its infancy. It is extended to the contiguous parts of the East and North Ridings of Yorkshire, the express object being to ensure to the labourer, at the abovementioned expense, the repayment of five sixth parts of the value of his cow* upon the following conditions.

* I have great pleasure in inserting in a note, the first premium of the present year offered by the Board of Agriculture.—DOUBTS having been expressed by some persons, concerning the expediency of cottagers keeping cows, except on rich soils, the Board will give to the person who shall produce the most satisfactory account,

1st. Every subscriber is to pay half yearly, on the 12th of May and 12th of November, for each cow by him or her insured, at the rate of one halfpenny for every twenty shillings, upon her value per month, into the hands of the treasurer of the district: which sums, when amounting to £20. respectively, are to be placed at interest till wanted, to accumulate for the benefit of the fund.

2. No cow is to be admitted without the approbation and valuation of the Commissioner, or one of the Commissioners of the District, to whom (if required) she shall be sent for inspection.

3. Upon the death of any cow so admitted, the Commissioner or Commissioners of the District shall inquire into the circumstances; and if it appear to have been caused by the wilful neglect of the owner, or by his or her refusing to employ such farrier as they may have appointed, whose bill when exceeding twenty shillings is paid out of the fund, he or she shall receive no benefit from the Institution: but, with this exception, for each cow so admitted and dying, there shall be paid five sixths of her estimated value; in no case however exceeding £12.; her hide, tallow, &c. to be sold for the benefit of the fund.

4. When the subscriptions amount in each dis-

“verified by experiments, of the best means of supporting
 “cows on poor land, in a method applicable to cottagers
 “— *the Gold Medal*. — The accounts are to be produced
 “of the soil — articles cultivated — produce — stock kept
 “— and every material circumstance — verified by certi-
 “ficates, on or before the first Tuesday in May, 1808.”

trict respectively, to three per cent. upon the aggregate value of the cows admitted, the half yearly payments shall be suspended, until the respective funds shall be reduced by losses beneath that proportion; when they shall again be renewed: and, if in consequence of additional losses, resulting from any other cause than a murrain, those funds prove inadequate to the claims upon them, each subscriber shall be liable to contribute, in proportion to the value of the cow or cows by him or her admitted, to supply the deficiency of his subscription.

5. No subscriber shall receive any benefit from this Institution, upon the death of a cow above fourteen years old.

6. If upon any accident, the Commissioner or Commissioners for the District deem it necessary to have a Cow slaughtered, the owner shall have the option of receiving the neat value of her carcase, after the expenses of slaughtering are deducted, or the five sixths of her value, as entered in the book of the Club.

7. Every subscriber neglecting to make his payments on the days appointed by the third article for that purpose, or within fourteen days after notice in writing from the Treasurer of the District, shall be excluded.

8. All disputes upon the meaning of any part of these Articles, or of the purposes of this Institution, shall be determined by the Commissioner or Commissioners of the District wherein they occur,

subject to the controul of a General Committee, to be elected hereafter from the whole circuit.

9. A Treasurer, and a Commissioner or Commissioners, without stipend, shall be elected for each District within the circuit of this Institution.

10. In the event of one or more of the said officers dying, or declining to act, the vacancy or vacancies shall be supplied by such person or persons, as a majority of subscribers in their respective Districts, by letter, or assent otherwise signified, shall elect.

OBSERVATIONS.

The improvements, as I venture to call them; which distinguish the above plan from that alluded to in the preamble, are,

1. That the rate of payment is proportioned, by Article I. to the value of the Cow insured.

2. That the sum paid by the fund on the death of a Cow, by Article III. never exceeds a certain proportion (*five sixths*) of her value : nor a certain absolute sum, £12. ; the first restriction operating to keep alive the cottager's interest in her preservation, or recovery ; and the latter to prevent his dealing in those animals, with any other view than to their milk, &c. as nutriment for his family.

3. That even the moderate payments, directed by Article I. are suspended by Article IV. as soon as a moderate per centage is raised upon the aggregate value of the Cows admitted ; the object of the Institution being simply to provide against the

probable contingences of the next six months, as a new call for contributions to supply deficiencies, may always be made upon the next ensuing pay-day. This is abundantly effected by three per cent. ; which, if the full value were paid on the death of a cow, would cover the loss of one in thirty-three ; but by the present arrangement of paying only five-sixths, will cover the loss of one in twenty-eight.

It is obvious that, tho primarily intended for the benefit of cottagers, this Institution admits farmers and other opulent proprietors of cows to insure them ; as there is nothing, in its composition, of an eleemosynary nature.

5th June, 1807.

No. CXL.

Extract from an Account of the Mode of purifying Water, at Paisley, in Scotland. By Sir JOHN SINCLAIR, Bart.

THE idea of furnishing the inhabitants of Paisley with good water, occurred to a gentleman of that place, in consequence of the plans which he had executed for the improvement of his bleaching grounds. As the measure has been attended with success, is of great importance to the health and comfort of the poor, and may easily be adopted in other towns similarly situated, it is very deserving of attention.*

The bleaching grounds lie along the river Cart, a little way above Paisley. The water of that river being often muddy, and bringing down much stuff from print-fields, lime-works, copperas and alum-works, situated on its banks, is altogether unfit, in its usual state, for bleaching. This suggested the idea of filtrating it: an operation not uncommon, but perhaps nowhere so completely executed as here.

* This account, in its original publication, made part of Sir John Sinclair's "Code of Health and Longevity." The reader will find it in page 260 of the first volume; and connected with it a great deal of curious and interesting information on the subject. The account was sent to Sir John Sinclair by the Rev. Robert Boog, the Minister of Paisley; to whom the public is indebted for the useful information which it contains.

A well, about twenty-five yards from the river, and sunk below the level of its bed, receives its water by a covered cut. This cut is about 8 feet wide, and 4 deep : it is filled with chipped free-stones, which are broke smaller as it approaches the well. To prevent the intermingling of the earth, they are covered with Russia matts, over which the ground is levelled. A great deal of the filtering is effected by this first and simple operation. Over the well is a small steam-engine, which raises the water to an air-chest, whence it is forced to the external trench of the bason, higher than the engine, and distant perhaps sixty or seventy yards. The air-chest may be about sixteen feet above the river. The communication from it to the trench, is by a wooden pipe of Scots fir, of three inches bore.

From the trench the water filters into the bason. The bason is a circle of about twenty-three feet and a half diameter, and ten deep, sunk perhaps about two feet below the level of the ground ; its bottom of puddled earth ; its side, a wall of free-stone, neatly jointed, but laid without cement. It is surrounded by a bed of sand, or very fine gravel, about six feet wide, the same depth with the bason, and retained by a wall of free-stone rubble without cement ; and like the former, about a foot thick. A second bed of gravel surrounds this wall, of the same width and depth as the other, but the gravel coarser, and retained by a similar wall to the former. The water-trench succeeds ; about six feet

wide, of the same depth with the bason; the bottom of puddled earth, as are the bottoms of the sand-beds.

The outer wall of the trench is double; the interior one, hewn stone joined; the exterior, thick whin-stone. A space of about sixteen inches between them, is rammed with clay or puddled earth; a coping of hewn stone covers both in: the outside is faced with earth and turf, and gradually sloped to the level of the surrounding ground. All the stone employed in the first communication from the river, and in the walls, is carefully picked from quarries perfectly free from any metallic tinge. From the bason, a pipe is carried below the sand-beds, to a distance of perhaps a furlong; where a declivity in the ground gives opportunity to drive a cart below the mouth of the pipe, when a large cask placed upon it, is commodiously and expeditiously filled. The cask contains about four hundred and eighty gallons, wine measure. Two carts filled with such casks are constantly employed, and go seven times each day through the town, which contains a population of 20,000 inhabitants, who have hitherto suffered very greatly from the unwholesomeness of their water. Two pails full of this filtered water were, at first, sold for a halfpenny. This, however, it was found, would not defray the expense. Three farthings are now paid for that quantity; but if any considerable quantity is bought, some gallons are allowed in addition. This is some addition to family expenses: but, for pure water,

all who value health will willingly pay at this rate: and, as it is brought to almost every door, to those who are at a distance from wells or the river, there is a considerable saving of time and labour.

This plan is susceptible of improvements;* but

* We have the satisfaction of being able to add some further information on this subject, which, in answer to some queries transmitted through Sir John Sinclair to Mr. Boog, he has favoured us with.—“ I have conversed at great length (says Mr. Boog) upon the subject of the queries sent me, with Mr. Gibb, the ingenious gentleman to whom Paisley owes the supply of filtered water. There can be no doubt upon the principle, that water carried through a channel of filtration, formed of proper materials, and of sufficient length, will be given out pure at the end of the channel. And there are instances in this neighbourhood of water, in its ordinary state very unfit for bleaching, rendered, by this simple method, sufficiently pure for that operation. The difficulty will arise from the probable situation of the ground where some expedient of this nature would be most necessary, probably a dead level. The mouth of the channel must be three or four feet below the surface of the water in the river, and the surface of the water must be taken when the river is lowest in the driest season. There must be some slope from the river to the tank, and if the whole percolation is to be effected in the channel, it must necessarily be of very considerable length. The bottom of the tank must of consequence be a great depth below the surface of the ground; and in low lying plains, unmanageable strata may occur for the bottom of the tank, which might render necessary a thick bed of puddled clay.—One cannot say what direct influence the improved water of Paisley may have had upon the health of the inhabitants. Mr. Gibb informs me that “ sick people are anxious to “ have it. Victuals are sooner and better dressed with it, and “ with an equal quantity of barley, it makes much richer “ and better barley broth than common water. All the “ distillers in the neighbourhood use it; and in the course “ of the year, 237 puncheons (of 120 gallons) were used “ by one house for the purpose of reducing spirits.”—The expense of Mr. Gibb’s works has been very great;—above £1000. for completing the reservoir, perhaps £500. for steam-engines, and £800. or more for pipes, including

it is sufficient to demonstrate, that no town near a river need be destitute of good water. It has not, to my knowledge, been ascertained whether the filtered water has been subjected to any chemical tests; but, to the eye and taste, it is perfectly pure: and while the water immediately from the river, when boiled and left to cool, deposits a thick sediment, the filtered water gives none. The air-chest is a contrivance employed for forcing up the water in the engine for extinguishing fire. The water is driven into the receptacle, (which is called an air-chest,) by a forcing pump, and its return prevented by a valve opening inward. A pipe is inserted into the top or side of the chest, with its mouth near the bottom. The compressed air acting on the surface of the water, forces it through this pipe." A similar plan has since been extended to Glasgow; and the water* of every town, in every civi-

what are laid through his bleaching grounds. The water has been improved by covering the tank or reservoir. This plan has been adopted upon a great scale in Glasgow. The filtered water is carried to a reservoir on an elevated situation in the town, and sent thence by means of pipes to the houses of individuals. The expence is defrayed by a subscription in shares, and the profits are to be divided among the subscribers. A similar plan has been proposed for supplying the village of Anderston, but it is apprehended will be too expensive. I have seen the drawings which were made out for forming the estimate: a thin bed of *charcoal* was meant to be introduced between the external trench and the reservoir."—27th Oct. 1807.

* I have great pleasure in transcribing part of a letter from Dr. Kirkland to Sir John Sinclair upon this subject. The Doctor is speaking of the hundreds of Essex, particularly those of Dingy and Rochford, and of the improvement of the healthiness of that country.—"In many places,"

lized country, ought to be improved in the same way.

OBSERVATIONS.

The rich do not generally know, and the poor are seldom aware, how much of the ill-health, and the consequent distress and misery of the labouring class, are occasioned by bad and unwholesome water. In those countries where epidemic complaints prevail, the impurity of the water is frequently more deleterious than that of the air; at the same time that it often admits of a much easier remedy* than that which has been so effectual and

he says, "in both hundreds, they suffer much for want of water; especially in the islands called Wallis, Foulness, and Cunnvey, having no means of preserving it (and that rain water) than by digging pits, which they line with chalk-rubbish, forming a sort of cement. In this way they are often obliged to keep it for months, especially in summer, so that by corrupting, it becomes a grievous unhealthy circumstance. To remedy in some measure this inconvenience, for several years before I left Essex, I recommended them to filter the water through stones made for the purpose, which appeared to improve it; at least it rendered it more agreeable to the eye. In many other places of late they have been fortunate enough to procure that valuable article, by sinking wells to a great depth: no less than five hundred feet; which, with the improvements before mentioned, has contributed much to benefit the health of the people, as will appear from the following fact. An intelligent apothecary residing at Walden informed me, that in consequence of a well having been sunk to nearly the depth I mentioned, and good water procured, in the parish of Steeple, in Dingy hundred, where he has practised for many years, the inhabitants are so much improved in health, that in place of receiving from many farmers in that parish the sums of twenty, thirty, and forty pounds yearly, he does not now take as many shillings."

* There is a mode of preserving water, and by which it is filtered at the same time, adopted at Paris. The water is

so beneficial at Paisley ; where a variety of additional impurities from copperas, and other noxious ingredients, was superadded to its natural disadvantages. The expense, however, even at Paisley, was inconsiderable, though the operation was very complicated. The cost of two gallons of purified water, delivered at the cottager's door, is only one farthing.

In many cases, a mere filtration through sand, or the addition of a little limestone, charcoal,* or of some simple ingredient, would convert the cause of suffering and disease, into a source of health and enjoyment.—This account and these observations, are submitted to the public, with a view of drawing the attention of the opulent and scientific to this important subject : and there is hardly any thing in which knowledge and wealth can be more properly and usefully employed. Those, therefore,

put in what is called a *fountain* ; which is a large and strong earthen jar, about four feet in height, placed on a wooden pedestal. At the bottom there is gravel to the height of six or eight inches, which should be cleared once a year. The fountain may be had for a Louis d'or ; and the waterman receives a trifle for filling it once a week, which is sufficient for the generality of families. The water thus filtrated through the gravel becomes pure as crystal, and is drawn by a cock, at the bottom of the fountain. It would be of the highest importance to have so simple and useful an article introduced into this country.

* CHARCOAL is said to have the property of preserving water from corruption, and of purifying it after it has been corrupted. Three ounces and a quarter of *powdered charcoal* and fifty-two drops of *oil of vitriol*, (concentrated sulphuric acid) are held sufficient to purify a gallon of corrupted water, without communicating to it any sensible acidity. Filtrating water through charcoal only has also been found a mode of purifying it.

who have acquired chymical science, and independence of situation, are now called upon to apply them in this,* and other instances, for the benefit of their fellow creatures, and of the community to which they belong. This appeal is still more earnestly addressed to landlords, and to gentlemen resident in those districts where the insalubrity of the water is the cause of suffering and debility in the labouring class. It is intended to suggest to their consideration, the propriety of a chymical analysis of that essential article of life, whenever any doubt can reasonably be entertained of its salubrity ; and to stimulate their minds, by the contemplation of the pleasure which they may derive, from carrying increased comfort into the mansions of the cottager, and exercising the divine attribute of giving health to their fellow creatures.

November 2, 1807.

* It would be very useful to ascertain how far lead is a proper vehicle for water, particularly when the water contains any animal or vegetable substances, capable of putrefaction or fermentation. Water is then supposed by some to be rendered very pernicious by being kept or conveyed in lead. The fatal effects arising from it, are asserted to have been proved in a variety of instances.

No. CXLI.

*Extract from an Account of a Parish Library, at
Hunmanby, Yorkshire. By the Rev. FRANCIS
WRANGHAM.*

I HAVE lately founded a small parish library, which I keep in my vestry, consisting of the twelve volumes of the Christian Society's Tracts, the Cheap Repository Tracts, the Cottage Library, two volumes, the Pilgrim's Progress, Gilpin's Lives of Truman and Atkins, Doddridge's Gardiner, Susan Gray, Lucy Franklin, &c. &c. under an idea that the lower classes delight more in *concretes* and in *abstracts*; or (in other words) that sermons are less read than tales. It would be important to ascertain what other volumes may have been found useful and popular in similar institutions. My present collection is nearly already all in circulation. The school-master attends on Sundays for half an hour prior to the beginning of the morning service, to receive and give out such books as are returned, or required; and fifteen or twenty volumes are usually exchanged or issued upon these occasions. The masters of families read them to their children, &c. in the evenings; and thus a few visitors are perhaps detained from the ale-house.

OBSERVATIONS.

Instead of offering to the reader any observations of my own, on Mr. Wrangham's useful and exemplary plan of a Parish Library, I shall submit to his perusal some remarks on this subject, extracted, with very little variation, from a volume of sermons* recently published.

“ A little money (says our author) may be usefully laid out in well chosen books for lending to the poor. The poor have leisure hours, and some of them love reading ; but they cannot purchase books, and may fall on improper ones. By being properly supplied, they escape the temptation to idleness, and vain thoughts, and foolish talking ; their minds are improved, and conversation furnished. A minister of religion can in this way bring home the ministry of advice, and reproof, and comfort.

“ Parish libraries would be an useful institution. Reading forms the mind. The influence of books at the Reformation was mighty, and is at all times great. In the dawn of knowledge, it was an object with Leighton, and others, to supply the clergy with books. By private and circulating libraries, the middle ranks are now supplied ; by a Parish Library, knowledge would descend. Under a minister's direction, poisonous books would be ex-

* Sermons of Samuel Charters, D. D. minister of Wilton, printed for Rivingtons, &c.

cluded, and good ones chosen, suited to the young, the thoughtless, the busy, the sick, the mourner, the melancholy, the aged. An appetite for controversy will subside when better food is provided.

“ The expense of such a plan, if properly explained and recommended, would perhaps be defrayed in some parishes by landholders, or well disposed individuals. Religious ladies who minister kindly and liberally to the bodily wants and diseases of the poor, would minister with equal kindness and liberality to the wants and diseases of their souls. Clergymen who have any thing to spare for alms (and they should deny themselves, in order to spare a little) might bestow it on food for the mind. The most pressing temporal wants are usually supplied by poor-rates and individual compassion, while wants of the mind have been hitherto less considered. There would be a new motive for writing practical treatises suited to the times. The Puritans, who excelled in this kind of writing, adapted religious instruction to their own day. Since they wrote, a century has elapsed; knowledge has been increased; language, and taste, and manners, and circumstances, both private and national, have undergone a change. By adapting religious instruction in sermons and books to actual circumstances, mankind may be prepared for the purity and simplicity of genuine Christianity.

The composition of such works may not lead to literary fame and emolument, nor will it interest persons to whom those attainments are ruling ob-

jects. But to many country ministers it might relieve the languor of solitary hours ; it might prevent unclerical company and pastimes, attach them to the closet, and furnish suitable conversation with one another. By practical writings, the general good is promoted, the ministerial character is sustained, and a considerable degree of personal honour is reflected on the man, who thus reedems his leisure hours, and consecrates them to the service of his creator and of his fellow creatures.

October 17, 1807.

No. CXLII.

Extract from an Account of the BISHOP of DROMORE'S Sunday Schools. By GEORGE AUST, Esq.

IN the Sunday Schools which the Bishop of Dromore has established in his neighbourhood, children of all persuasions are admitted, and in considerable numbers. On a Sunday, when I visited the Bishop last autumn, there were above 100 children assembled on the lawn in the front of his Lordship's palace, half a mile from the town of Dromore; and they were all carefully examined and rewarded according to their merits. I have since learnt that they frequently assemble there in far greater numbers; and I have received the following particulars concerning the establishment of these schools.

There are five Sunday Schools in the parish of Dromore; two of them entirely supported by the Bishop. He contributes to the three others, giving occasionally to them all, books and other premiums. Twenty years have passed, since he first established them. Having for some months tried the effect of a certain number of children of the different religious persuasions, he had a meeting of some of his own Clergy at an examination of the Schools, uniting with them the Roman Catholic Priest, and two Dissenting Ministers of the different congre-

gations, called here old and new lights.* With them was settled a plan of instruction, for instilling the fundamental principles of Christianity, chiefly taken from our Church Catechism; and for teaching them their duty to God and their neighbour; impressing them with a particular abhorrence of lying and theft.—The effect has answered his most sanguine expectations; the surrounding peasantry being now remarkable for their truth and honesty.

Every Sunday morning the children attend their teachers in the school-houses; and after Divine Service, three and sometimes four of the schools (the fifth being too remote) assemble with their masters, as is abovementioned, before the Bishop's Palace. Every one that can answer the question proposed is rewarded with a halfpenny; afterwards they withdraw with the greatest regularity, arranged two and two together; the first step towards improvement being to accustom children to a respectful, decent, and orderly demeanour. They are also required to come neat and cleanly, and the Bishop has given amongst them for a Christmas gift, a gross, or twelve dozen of combs. The children of all the poor families around him, whether their parents be Roman Catholics, Dissenters, or of the established Church, are all equally desirous of receiving this instruction, and of enjoying

* The Old Lights strictly adhere to the Calvinist Doctrine. Both agree in the same Presbyterian Church government.

these benefits, of which they all partake without distinction. In order to remove every prejudice, the Bishop is not so exactly scrupulous in the choice of masters, as to confine them entirely to members of the established Church; but he is careful to see that they strictly follow the plan of instruction, which had been prescribed; and for that purpose they are constantly examined by his own Agent, and by inspectors appointed by himself; and he has never found that any undue advantage has been taken of his confidence in the teachers.

The members of the established Church form here a very respectable and large congregation, which has so increased, that it has been found necessary to make the addition of another aisle to Dromore church. This church was rebuilt after the Restoration by that excellent prelate, Dr. Jeremiah Taylor, then Bishop of Down Connor and Dromore, and author of many valuable works, particularly his *Rule of Holy Living and Dying*. In this Church he was buried.— There are also two large congregations of Dissenters, distinguished as above, and one of Roman Catholics, not so numerous. To the erection of their Chapel, and to the rebuilding of one of the Meeting-houses, the Bishop contributed. Indeed he pays the kindest attention to the Dissenting Ministers, and to the Roman Catholic Priest, whom he frequently invites to his table; and whenever the Titular Bishop visits this part of the diocese, he is always invited, with his clergy, to Dromore House. By this, and

by a variety of other instances of conciliating and liberal conduct, he has produced the greatest harmony among his neighbours. They are no less distinguished for their loyalty ; so that a well disciplined corps of yeomanry having been formed, he never once, in the late rebellion, quitted his residence there, during the whole of that alarming period.

OBSERVATIONS.

If the excellent example of the Bishop of Dromore were extended universally through the British Isles, we should soon have little cause to complain of asperity and hostility among our Christian brethren. When once the various denominations of Christians shall be taught by our example, to add to godliness **LOVING KINDNESS**,—and to loving kindness, **CHARITY**, their minds will be prepared to admire the excellence of the Church establishment, and duly to appreciate its tendency to promote every moral virtue. The heart, which will not yield to the vehemence of argument, may be softened by kindness and forbearance ; and the most cold and obdurate prejudices may be melted down by the warmth of Christian love and charity.

As a remarkable instance of the effects, which the conduct of the learned and venerable Bishop of Dromore has produced, I will mention the following circumstance.—A Popish Priest in his neighbourhood, was employed to write in defence of the Romish Church. Such, however, had been

the general impression made on his mind by the apostolic conduct of this good Protestant Bishop, and so prepared was he, by the excellence of its fruits, to attend calmly and dispassionately to the arguments in favour of our Church, that in the course of his reading with a view to defend the tenets of Popery, he became a sincere convert to the doctrines which he was opposing; and addressed a letter to BISHOP PERCY, stating publicly and candidly the grounds of his conviction. This letter has been since published and circulated.

When I see the doughty champions of any sect, drawn up in martial array, and engaged in the hostility of wordy argument, — deeply conversant in all the tactics of the Church militant, and directing the canon of their establishment against those who differ from them only in points as to which revelation hath not explicitly and distinctly declared THE DIVINE WILL, and about which Christians who refer to the Scripture as the only unerring rule, and agree in all essential points, may yet conscientiously differ, — I hold them to be defective in true policy, as well as in genuine Christianity; and I venture to apply the words of our BLESSED LORD, and to say, “Ye know not what spirit ye are of.” — While the breach between sincere and honest believers in CHRIST JESUS is thus increased, our pure and undefiled religion is injured and deformed; and the very cause, in behalf of which hostilities are waged, is prejudiced and deteriorated. This is not the mode, in which

the interests of genuine Christianity are to be promoted ;—this is not the way in which the English Church, *that pure and reformed part of it to which we have the happiness to belong*, is to be defended against its open and concealed enemies.

Love and meekness

Becomes a Christian better than ambition.

Win straying souls with modesty again ;

Cast none away.—

He who induces me to extend my interest and my affections, to other climates, and to other states, —to different sects, opinions, and classes of men, who enlarges the circle of my benevolence,— —who instructs me that we are all children of one Heavenly Father, all united by one common sympathy, all subject to the same trials and afflictions, and all inheritors of the same blessed hopes, —HE is my kindest and my best friend : — HE is the friend and benefactor of mankind.

These are principles conducive to the happiness of all mankind ; they are applicable to all nations, and to all ages. But if ever there was a period, if ever there was a country, in which the practical adoption of them was an essential act of political wisdom,— if ever there was a subject to which they were peculiarly applicable, it is to the present state of our sister Island. It is upon the wisdom or folly, the justice or injustice, of our proceedings, —upon the Christian or Antichristian spirit of our counsels, —upon the prudence or imprudence of our conduct, — that will depend the secure preservation of Ireland, as a blessing to us, — or its

precarious possession as a thorn in the sides of Britain.

The late application from some Roman Catholics of affluence and rank in Ireland, called upon many statesmen, and among others upon our respected President, to declare his sentiments freely and unreservedly, in the Upper House of Parliament. —To all of *toleration*, that could be *asked*, he was a friend: but he objected to the *demand* of *power*. He wished that something had been applied for, in which the general mass of Irish Catholics was concerned; — something that was connected with *personal toleration*; — something that was to promote the social and domestic habits of the labouring class, or to improve their resources; — something that was to have a general operation in *bettering the condition* of our Catholic fellow subjects in Ireland. But as to granting to Papists the *power* of sitting in Parliament, of exercising corporate franchises, and of acting as sheriffs in counties, — he called upon the noble Lords to pause, until they had ascertained, whether after such concessions, we should be able to obtain *toleration* for our Protestant fellow subjects in Ireland; and whether we should be able to keep inviolate the barriers of our religious and political communion, and to preserve that *entire*, which can only be preserved by its *entirety*.

With an extract from that part of BISHOP BARRINGTON'S speech on this occasion, which is peculiarly applicable to the subject of this paper,

I shall conclude these observations. “ After a
 “ period (says his Lordship) of religious difference
 “ and civil discord, it is indeed of the utmost im-
 “ portance, that we should be influenced by an
 “ increased anxiety, to guard against every unfair
 “ or unfavourable impression, from recent injuries,
 “ or internal discontents. It is essential that we
 “ should resolve to preserve inviolate and sacred
 “ the principles of the establishment ; and to ex-
 “ tend that toleration, forbearance, and Christian
 “ charity, which are its distinctive marks, to their
 “ utmost practicable limit. — RELIGIOUS TOLE-
 “ RATION* is the primary principle, and peculiar
 “ characteristic, of our established Church. By
 “ the practice of it, we have been habituated to
 “ respect and revere even the errors of the consci-
 “ entious Christian ; and we have been able to pre-
 “ serve harmony and good will, not only between
 “ Protestant sects, but between every denomination
 “ of Christians.”

“ How far it is the disposition of the English
 “ to shew, not merely *toleration*, but *real and active*
 “ *beneficence*, to persons differing from them in
 “ articles of faith, may have appeared by the re-
 “ ception and protection which this country has

* To use our religious liberty, not for a cloak of licentiousness, but for working out our salvation, is the proper evidence of gratitude to God for bestowing it. To every form of government, both civil and ecclesiastical, objections will be found ; but, if the radical disease be healed (the radical disease of church government is *intolerance*), and if the evils be greatly overbalanced by the blessing, there is ground of praise—Dr. Charter’s Sermons.

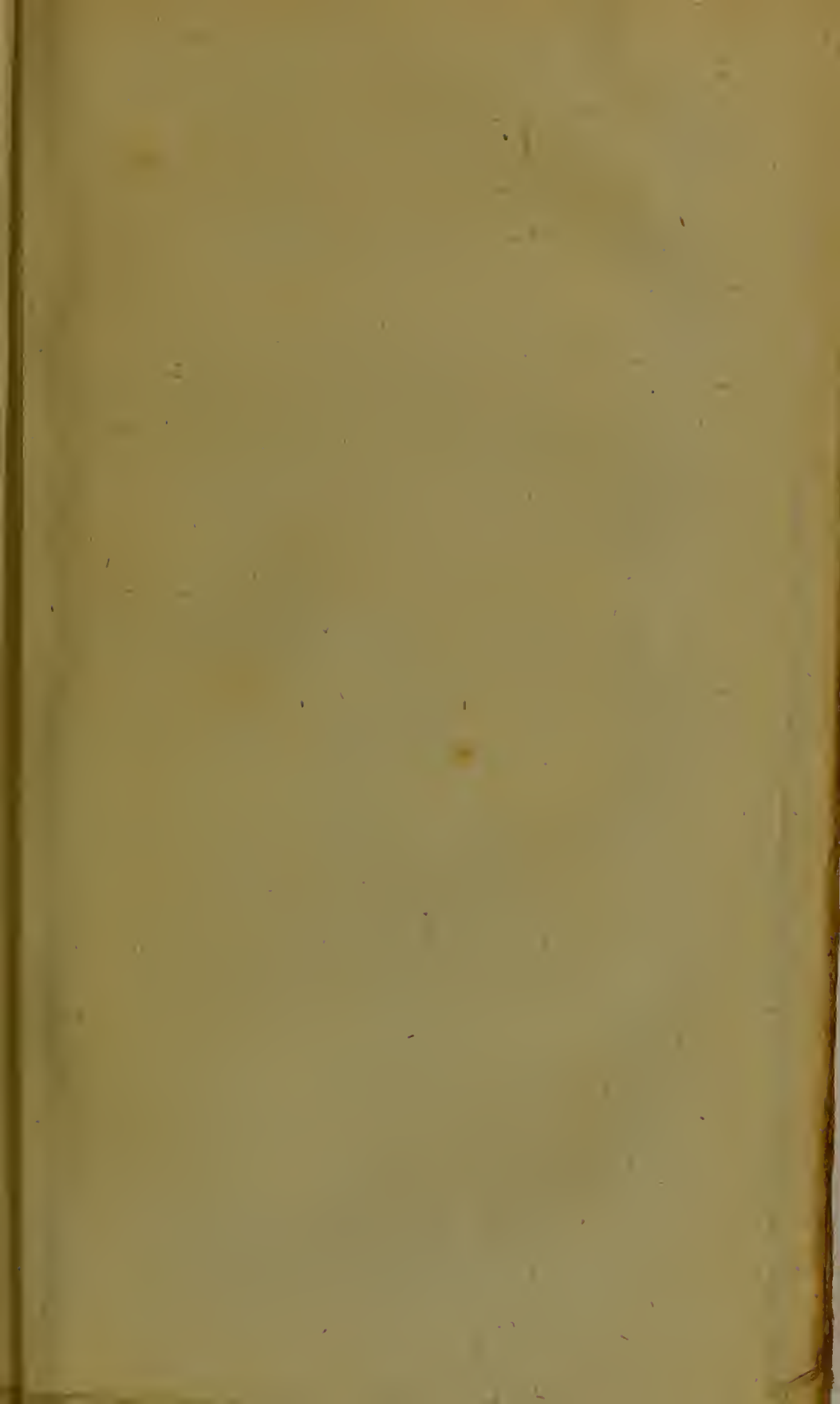
“ recently afforded to the French priests :—where
 “ to religious prejudices was superadded political
 “ danger ; and when we had no security against
 “ the introduction of spies and enemies ; nor any
 “ reasonable assurance that there might not be in-
 “ dividuals among them, desirous of purchasing
 “ their return, on almost any conditions, which
 “ the usurped power of the French government
 “ might think proper to dictate.”

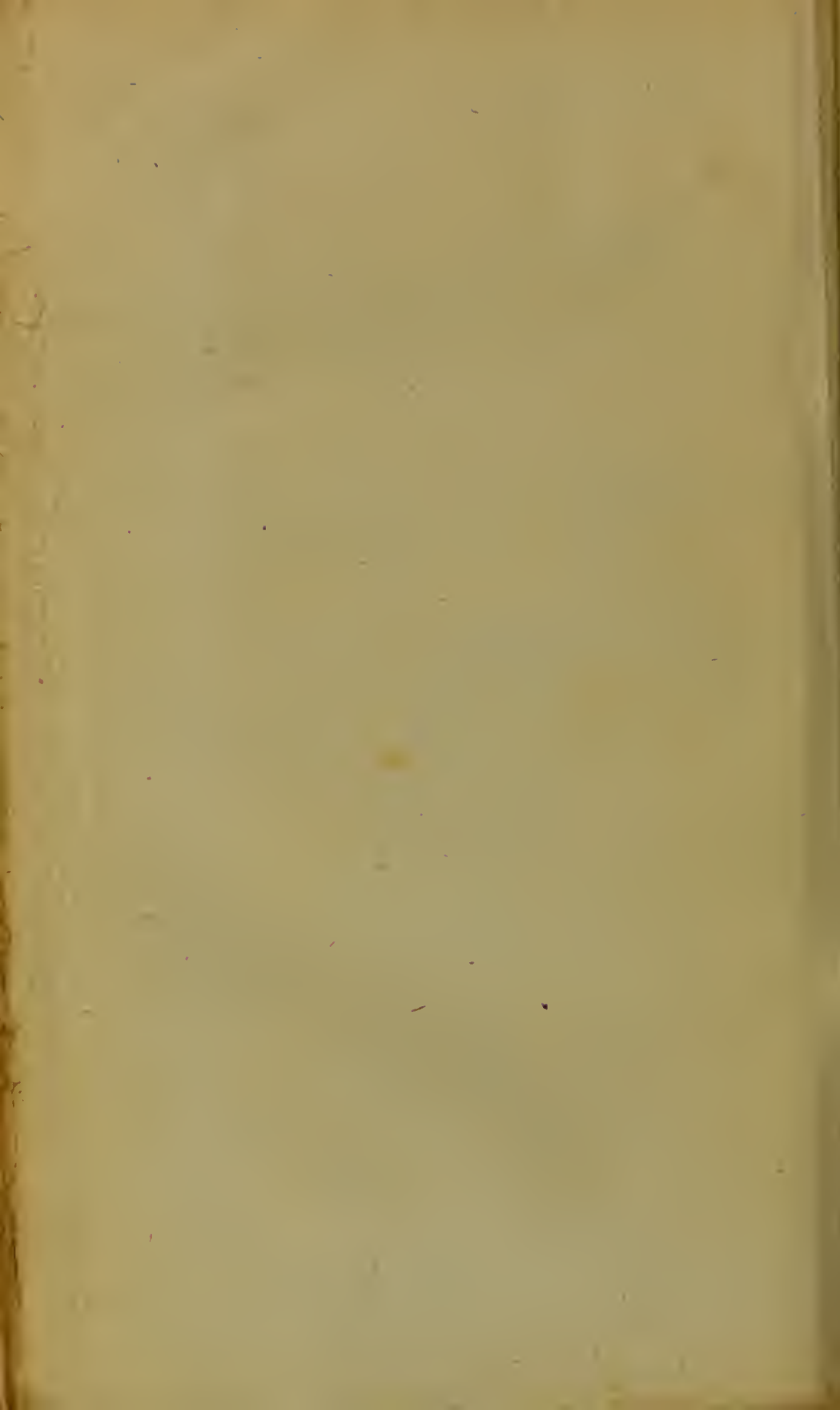
“ In that instance we had also to encounter reli-
 “ gious danger from the bigoted spirit of conversion,
 “ which characterizes their religion ;—from the un-
 “ favourable sentiments which they had nourished,
 “ from their earliest infancy, with respect to English
 “ Protestants ;—and from a peculiar species of
 “ domineering intolerance, which distinguishes the
 “ French from all other nations. —And yet these
 “ considerations did not deter us from receiving
 “ them with all the warm charity of Christians,
 “ and the liberality of Englishmen ;—exhibited
 “ not merely by the higher orders in the hour of
 “ plenty, but *by the poor and necessitous at a period*
 “ *of general scarcity.*”

“ In looking to the welfare of the great mass
 “ of Roman Catholics in Ireland, I mean that use-
 “ ful body of men which in every country must
 “ compose the most numerous class of its inhabi-
 “ tants, it will be wise and benevolent so to use
 “ the power which the constitution has placed in
 “ us, as a part of a Protestant legislature, as to
 “ do for them, individually, *all* that (were the

“power in their hands) they would be wise in
“doing for themselves. In this view it may be a
“subject for our consideration, how far we can
“better provide for the discharge of their religious
“duties, and how far we may with propriety assist
“them in that respect. We may inquire how far
“we can improve their temporal condition by
“supplying the means and motives of industry,
“and by every exertion of kindness, which can
“promote their domestic comfort, improve their
“character, and meliorate their condition: — And
“we may endeavour to make a more general pro-
“vision for the education of their children; not
“interfering with their religious tenets, but attend-
“ing to their instruction,—to making them useful
“to themselves and to the community,—and giv-
“ing them the unequivocal advantage of religious
“and moral habits.”

19th Oct. 1807.





APPENDIX.

No. I.

Outline of Measures proposed for the improvement of the Character and Condition of the English Poor..

IN the Introductory Letter to this Volume, an attempt has been made to develop the *principles* to be adopted, in the formation and arrangement of any measures, for diminishing the present charge of the poor, and for increasing their happiness and utility. To draw the outline of those measures will be the present object.—It is conceived, that they may be included under seven heads.

1ST. THE SUB-DIVISION OF COUNTIES INTO DISTRICT PETTY SESSIONS, HOLDING STATED MEETINGS, AND RECEIVING THE RETURNS OF THE OVERSEERS.

This made one of several excellent parts of Mr. Pitt's Bill; and whenever any regular system is to be adopted with respect to the poor, periodical petty sessions *exclusively* for that object, must form an essential part of it. The districts should be settled by the quarter sessions; and may follow, in great measure, the arrangement of those already held, for appointment of overseers and surveyors, and for licensing alehouses. The time of the meetings

should be monthly, on some fixed day of the week; and it would be convenient, that they should be near to the full moon. When more frequent meetings were wanted, as in cities and populous districts, they might be held by adjournment or by special summons from the chairman. Some incidental expenses would attend the meeting; for which, it would be reasonable, the county, or the district, should pay. The sum, however, required for each meeting, would be so trifling as not to deserve consideration. The returns of the overseers should be monthly, and might be made to printed queries. These would supply a regular state of the poor throughout the kingdom; duplicates, or abstracts, of which might at any time be returned by the justice's clerk to some general office of reference, whenever it should be deemed useful to collect and digest this information.

2d. TO AUTHORIZE THE PETTY SESSIONS, UPON
THE NOMINATION OF THE PARISH-VESTRY,
TO APPOINT AN ASSISTANT OVERSEER, WITH
A SALARY.

It is proposed that it shall be optional in the vestry, at their Easter meeting, to return, or not to return, one of their parishioners to the petty sessions, for appointment as assistant overseer with a salary to be specified in the return. If such return is made, it will then rest with the petty sessions, in case they think the person fit and the appointment expedient, to make the appointment. Such assistant

would of course enter into a recognizance, with two sureties, for his conduct, and would act in conformity to the *joint* direction of the other overseers. His duty would be to keep the accounts, attend the magistrates, and execute the detail of the office. The parochial return of an assistant overseer is proposed to be *optional*; as out of all the parishes in England, there may not be a third part, that will require such an appointment: but in the larger and more populous parishes, which do actually require such an assistant, it is very essential, that the peculiar care of the poor, and the detail of all the concerns of the parish, should not be *forced* upon annual overseers, already pretty fully occupied with their own private concerns.

3d. TO ESTABLISH BENEFIT FUNDS, IN EACH PARISH, FOR THE SICK AND AGED.

This, which was also an object of Mr. Pitt's Bill, is proposed to be open to all residents, whether male or female, and settled or not settled in the parish. The calculations should be in favour of the subscribers, and the purchase monies invested in the funds; the deficiency, if any, being supplied from the parish rates. This would offer to the poor man a more certain and a more unexceptionable *friendly society*, than any now existing; and would also enable the industrious female, to secure an unalienable provision for herself, against age, sickness, or widowhood. Some deficiency in the funds

might eventually occur; but it will hardly be necessary to prove, that the expense of providing for that deficiency, could never amount to a *tenth part* of what is now incurred, in supporting aged, infirm, and widowed pensioners,—who have had no inducement to adopt a system of saving, and providing for themselves. Some regulation must be made as to residents not settled in the parish. With regard to these, I would submit that, in case of their *necessarily* quitting the parish, their subscription money should be returned them with interest.

4th. THAT SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THIS PARISH FUND, IN CERTAIN CASES AND AFTER A CERTAIN PERIOD, SHALL GIVE THE SUBSCRIBER A SETTLEMENT IN THE PARISH.

This should be confined to resident labourers, generally working within the parish; and not having large families, or having become chargeable.—That no continued period of residence, and no extent of active industry supporting itself by its own exertions, should ever entitle the individual to the claim of a parishioner, is more than I apprehend any person will maintain:—and that a short term of mere residence should fix a man and his numerous family, as settled inhabitants, of a parish, is more than will, in any probability, be proposed. I should prefer the line adopted in Mr. Pitt's Bill; and make five years subscription to the parish fund without parish relief, *in the case of the labourer*

residing and generally working within the parish, and not having more than three children, intitle him and his family to a settlement.*

5th. THAT LABOURERS, SUBSCRIBING TO THE PARISH FUND, BE EXEMPTED FROM POORS-RATES FOR THEIR COTTAGES AND GARDENS.

The practice of parishes, in this respect, is as various as their soil and climate. In some, the exemption is carried to an extreme. In others, the most painful part of the magistrates duty, is to hear and adjudge questions, of poor's-rates being levied on individuals just removed from the rank of paupers, and perhaps, by the levy of the rate to be reduced to that situation. That an Act should have been made *for the relief of the poor*, and that, in its construction, it should call on and compel the *industrious* poor, out of their earnings, to contribute to the maintenance of the *idle* poor, appears to be monstrous and absurd. The execution of the Act should, in any event, be brought to one rule throughout the kingdom; and the least that can be done, in my humble opinion, will be to give exemption to those labourers, who are making an annual prospective provision for their own subsistence, in case of age, sickness, or calamity.

* The charge of moving paupers from parish to parish is considerable; but it bears no comparison with the national loss of productive labour, by the artisan or labourer being moved from a place where he can get work, to one where he cannot obtain it.

6th. THAT NO CONTRACT FOR FARMING THE POOR OF A PARISH, OR THE WORKHOUSE, BE VALID, UNTIL APPROVED BY THE PETTY SESSIONS OF THE DISTRICT; THE CONTRACTOR ENTERING INTO A RECOGNIZANCE, FOR THE DUE PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTY.

Experience has produced some cases, in which the farming of workhouses has contributed, not merely to the increase of industry, but even to the better management and the more orderly conduct of the poor. There are, however, numerous instances, in which the parish house is put up to auction, and without any previous enquiry as to character, conduct, or competency, *knocked down*,* to use an auc-

* There is hardly any one but knows that, where a farm is let by the year, without any restriction as to management,—and the land is ill used, becomes foul, impoverished, and out of heart, the timber destroyed, and the buildings and fences suffered to go to decay;—there is no practicable amount of rent, that will compensate for the injury done to the estate. Scarcely any one is so ignorant as not to be aware that it is not merely the annual payment, that is the object, but the personal character and solvency of the tenant, and the assurance that he will do justice to the land, and to the landlord. The same considerations are equally applicable, tho never applied, to the farming of the poor. Good management may do much in lessening the parish burthens, by placing out children in service, by supplying the other poor with occupation, and by encouraging their industry and good habits; and the contrary conduct will produce a contrary effect:—and yet no parishioner enquires further than who will take the poor at the lowest price. The farmer and the shopkeeper will both vote for what they call the best offer, tho the first would not trust *this farmer of the poor* with a rood of his land, nor the other with an article from his

ioneer's phrase, to the best bidder;—that is, to the person, who will undertake the care of the poor *at the lowest rate*. This best bidder is, in general, a *vagabond indigent speculator*; who, if times prove favourable, calculates on a profitable bargain: and, if they prove otherwise, knows that the poor being starved, or his being obliged to run away, are the worst consequences that can follow his undertaking.—The farming of the poor may be convenient in particular instances. Surely, however, it will be admitted, on the other hand, that the *character* of the man and his *solvency* and *capacity*, should be ascertained, before a trust is confided to him, in which not merely the parish purse, but *the conduct and welfare of the poor* are deeply concerned.—This regulation made a part of Mr. Pitt's Bill.

7th. TO AUTHORIZE AND (WHERE THE PETTY SESSIONS SHALL DEEM IT PRACTICABLE AND EXPEDIENT) TO DIRECT THE OVERSEERS TO HIRE LAND, TO BE LET OUT IN SMALL PARCELS TO THE INDUSTRIOUS POOR.

This must be upon a very limited scale; extending only to cultivable gardens for the poor, or where it is practicable, to pasturage for a cow. It is proposed that they shall have the ground *at a farmer's*

shop; and tho they are both aware that so far from his having any inducement to attend to the welfare of the parish, it is his interest to have the workhouse and its tenants in such a state and condition at the end of the year, as to preclude any risk of competition.

rent, to be paid in advance during harvest ; the means and motive being thus afforded for applying, at that period, their extraordinary earnings, as to conduce to their domestic comfort and resources at the other periods of the year.

The preceding measures, or such of them as may be deemed expedient, would probably be sufficient for the regulations of one session. Other matters would be in prospect. Of these, none would be more useful than a return as to charity schools,* an increased provision for the religious duties of the labouring class, and an inquiry into parochial charities, with a view to make them subservient to the good habits of the poor. These are mentioned rather as matters for consideration, or preparatory enquiry, than for immediate adoption. With this previous explanation, they are here stated, as subsequent in order to the seven preceding positions.

8th. A return from Charity Schools, of Income, and number of Scholars, for five preceding years.

The intent of this inquiry would be, to extend the utility of these schools, and, where wanting, to

* As to the *primary importance of the education of the poor*, and the inadequacy of our present provision for it, I am much gratified by Mr. Rose's opinion, *Observations*, p. 24 et subs.;— as well as by his authority (p. 37) for giving aid and stability in such funds, as the poor may provide for old age, infirmity, and misfortune, and his reasons for correcting the present system of workhouses, by the repeal or modification, of the 9th of George I.— He has treated this part of his subject with great ability and feeling.

supply the deficiency. Past abuses, except as to prospective correction, would not be subjects of investigation: the first consideration being how the original objects of these charities, may be the most benefited;—the second, how other children* may from the same funds, derive instruction and moral discipline, without prejudice to the original objects. In this, the offer of schooling to the vicinage generally, upon a weekly or monthly allowance for each pupil, to be regularly paid by the parent or friend, of the child, or to be contributed by the parish,† might supply an increase to the funds of the school beyond any addition of labour or attendance, which would be thrown on the master or his assistants.

* In the Appendix to Vol. IV. No. XXII. the reader will find a very satisfactory example, of the manner in which the charity schools already founded may, without any deviation from their original objects, be made contributory to a general system of education in this country.

† I repeat here what I have before stated,—that in cases where indigence hath made the parent an object of parish relief, I can see no more objection to the magistrate being authorized to direct the weekly payment of threepence each for children, between the ages of nine and twelve years, towards their *education*, so as to make them *useful to themselves and the community*, than to his having the power of granting a much larger sum, towards the *mere animal subsistence* of beings, continuing in a state of *ignorance and idleness*.

9th. *The removal of young persons from the Workhouse,
to Parish Schools.*

The injury done to the rising generation by continuing the children of paupers in the workhouse,* until the age of service arrive, cannot be correctly appreciated by any one, who has not personally attended to its effects. The evil is national and extensive; and the remedy is not only exempt from increase of trouble, but is attended even with a diminution of expense. Six or eight children may be instructed and fed, in some widowed cottage, at even less expense, than in the workhouse; and some poor widow might be therefore supplied with a far more acceptable maintainance, than her *pauper's* pension. I do not mean, that these parish schools would require no care and attention. But each of these *little seminaries* would find patronesses, who would make their superintendence a subject of amusement: and, in a world like this, if care and attention of this kind are to be entirely dispensed with, where are the active and social faculties of man to find exercise and employment?

* In my letter to Mr. Wilberforce, I have estimated the expense of the poor in the workhouse, as amounting to *half as much again*, as in his own cottage. It appears by Mr. Rose's pamphlet, and the parliamentary returns, that my estimate is greatly within bounds; and that the *financial evil* of workhouses is much more alarming and considerable than what I have stated.

10th. *To inquire into the state of parochial Charities, with a view to apply them so as to encourage the good habits of the Poor.*

To make the poor better and happier, we may safely conclude was the intention of the founders of parochial charities for the poor. No measures can therefore be adopted, more conformable to the real objects of the donors, than those which may tend to increase the virtue and happiness of the objects of their benevolence. How little this principle has been attended to, and how many of these “charitable donations have been lost; and how “many others, from neglect of payment and the “inattention of those persons who ought to superintend them, are in danger of being lost, and “are now rendered very difficult to be recovered,” is stated in the Report of the Committee of the House of Commons, of the 10th of June, 1788. The annual rental of them is not trifling or inconsiderable; being upon those charities, which were returned in 1787, £258,710. 19s. 3d. per annum. This was only a part, had all the returns been duly made, they would have amounted to a much larger annual rental.—If these charitable funds were invested in national securities, their trusts registered,* and their income duly applied, near a million of money would be annually applicable to a most beneficial object,—the promotion of industry, prudence, and good habits, among the poor.

* See two notes of the 3d. of Feb. 1798, in Vol. I. and No. XX. of the Reports.

11th. To appropriate a tenth part of the Parish Rates in addition to the parochial Charities, for the encouragement of the good habits of the Poor.

If this small proportion of the parochial rates thus applied, would not do more service than it would in the ordinary course of application, this measure ought not to be adopted; but if it should, on the other hand, appear that such an application might produce many times the effect, which it would do in the common mode, by giving assistance and advantage to poor persons with families, who do not apply for parish relief, there will remain, it is hoped, no objection to it. That its effect, in exciting exertion on the part of the poor, would be ten times* more than what it could produce in any other mode, hardly any one practically experienced in the subject would doubt. Several of the different modes, in which this fund might be advantageously applied, to promote the exertions and good

* To give an example from the Reports, (Vol. II. p. 158, 8vo. ed.) William Funnell, a labouring man of Barcombe, receives with gratitude from the *Sussex Agricultural Society*, a reward of five guineas for having brought up without parish relief or other means than his daily labour, eleven children to the age of fourteen years. If Funnell had made the usual claim of parish relief, these children would on an average have each received a years relief, at 18d. a week. This would have amounted to £291. 2s. 6d. producing at that cost, much less useful members to the community. At the same time a tenth of that money, judiciously given as a reward and not as relief, would produce *William Funnells* in every part of the kingdom, with a saving of nine tenths of the present parochial expense.

habits of the poor, are stated in the preceding numbers of the Reports. There is only one additional object which I will notice at present;—and that is *the encouraging of young persons to make a prospective provision against marriage*. This might be attained by liberal premiums, periodically given to each young couple, who could prove that they had saved and laid up of their earnings, to a certain amount, during the six years preceding their marriage. The poor laws have, at present, a tendency to promote *wasteful youth and thoughtless marriages*, among the poor.

12th. To make a more complete provision for the religious duties of the Poor.

This may be effected by giving them proper accommodation in our churches: by having evening services in London and the other great towns; and by building new churches, where they are wanted—All these objects, if we desire religious habits in the poor, should be attended to.—If we wish the poor of the established church to be as regular in their religious duties, as those of the Sectaries usually are, we should make as acceptable and favourable a provision for the poor in our churches, as is made in the Sectarian chapels. If we offer the poor no accommodation in our churches, we must not be surprised, that in some instances they attend other chapels, and in others neglect their religious duties entirely. The poor in great towns are more

able to attend an evening than a morning service, and such attendance is more likely to keep them from improper habits and connections. The ale-house and the spirit shop may be, in some degree, depopulated thereby; as it would afford satisfactory occupation to the poor for time which they might otherwise have been induced to devote to tippling and idleness. The example of hundreds who, instead of spending a drunken evening at the public house, do now regularly attend the evening service at the Free Chapel in St. Giles's, might contribute to decide the general opinion on the subject.

13th To allow certain Examinations of the Poor to be taken without Oath.

In the course of the execution of the poor laws, the repetition of oaths is an evil of no small magnitude; not only when considered with a view to the general sanction of an oath, and the moral sentiment existing on the subject; but also as to the object for which the oath is administered. The pauper who is examined, has no apprehension of a conviction for perjury; as there is little probability even where perjury is apparent, that the magistrate should be at the expence and trouble of a criminal prosecution, merely to bring down the vengeance of the law on indigence and misery. If, on the contrary, the pauper's examination were by a solemn averment, the wilful falsehood of which should subject the culprit, upon a summary conviction, to a

fine or to corporal punishment, he might be deterred by a penal law, which he knew would be enforced. In any event the principles and moral character of the poor man will not be deteriorated, and the sanctity of religion profaned, by frequent and familiar appeals to the ALMIGHTY, upon the truth of facts which the party solemnly declares upon his oath, in the confidence of their never being enquired into.*

* The DEPRAVITY of the poor, and indeed of the other ranks, has been greatly increased by the frequent and unnecessary repetition of formal oaths, directed by every modern Act of Parliament. In every matter relating to the poor-laws,—in every concern of property,—and in the innumerable variety of financial regulations,—this *solemn appeal* to the DEITY is not only repeated beyond all pretence of object, but with a species of levity and inattention, and frequently with a degree of ignorance and indifference as to the truth of what is so solemnly averred, which must be shocking to every thinking and considerate mind.—While we carefully guard against perjury in our courts of law, and exclude in all instances the evidence of a PARTY INTERESTED, however slight that interest may be, is it not extraordinary, that, in the poor-laws and in financial regulations, the only evidence required should be that of *the party most interested*. In the first instance, the poor man is taught to consider an oath, as the *form and mode appointed by law*, in which he is to claim relief. His wife and family are in distress, and, whatever compunction he may have, he goes as an act of duty, to swear what is necessary to obtain them relief.—In financial regulations, an attempt to specify the *unnecessary* oaths prescribed by law, would be as difficult as to number the sands of the sea.

14th. To enact that, in case of incorporated Work-houses, each Parish shall contribute weekly and rateably, for every Pauper sent into the Workhouse by such Parish.

Incorporated districts have this disadvantage, that their quota of allowance toward the general fund, has been fixed originally, by their proportion at the time of incorporation;* and that thereby the inducement has been greatly diminished, for any parish to endeavour to improve the situation of its own poor, or to check the progress of pauperism and profligacy within their parochial limit. The difference of expense to any parish, from the particular charge of their own poor, is so trifling and disproportionate, when paid out of the general fund, that it hardly supplies a motive or inducement to conduct. This is a national and important evil: its effects are extremely pernicious. It tends generally, and throughout the kingdom, to deteriorate

* Upon this subject the reader is referred to the account of the Montgomery and Pool House of Industry, where the inconvenience is stated, and the remedy proposed. Vol. IV. p. 151.—This remedy made a material part of Sir Richard Lloyd's plan, in 1753. See Appendix to Vol. IV. p. 113.
 “ Mr. Rose observes that “ it is quite evident, on an attentive inspection of the returns, that the *largest parishes* pay considerably the highest rates.”—This he imputes partly to “ an *indifference* in inhabitants, about persons gaining settlements; by which from many persons contributing, *each will be but little affected* by an eventual charge.”
 “ —This indifference about the poor in *large parishes* also extends to their employment and improvements; and in *incorporated districts* produces still greater and more pernicious effect.

the condition, and to increase the burthen of the poor. The proposed regulation will leave the general arrangements of the house in their original state; and will only vary a part of the detail of expense, so as to prevent injury to the community at large. The difference will probably be trifling and immaterial at present; but the consequences in preventing the future increase of parochial burthens will be great and important.

28 *March*, 1805.

No. II.

The following Report has been made to the Ladies Society for the Education and Employment of the Female Poor, by the Sub-Committee of the Society.

THE Sub-Committee have endeavoured to carry into execution the intentions of the Ladies Committee as far as the opportunities they have had have enabled them, and beg leave to lay before them the following statement of their proceedings.

The Ladies Committee having furnished them with no detailed instructions, and having by no means adopted any fixed system of regulations for its own formation and conduct in the few meetings which took place previous to the summer adjournment, they thought the services which it might be in their power to perform during the interval, were necessarily confined to the collecting of such information as might contribute to supply the Ladies Committee with the foundation and materials of more active proceedings when they should resume their meetings during the winter. It appeared to them particularly necessary to direct their inquiries to the following objects.

First, To collect general information respecting the circumstances and employment of the female poor, by as extensive a circulation of the printed Queries as they had the means of effecting.

Secondly, To ascertain as far as they were able,

the disposition of ladies in different parts of the country to co-operate with the Society ; to learn the extent of the assistance it might expect to receive ; and to collect the observations which might be offered them respecting its proposed plans and regulations.

Thirdly, To give such encouragement, and assistance as might be in their power to the formation of District Committees—and in all these proceedings they hoped for the active assistance of the other Ladies of the Committee in their different places of summer residence, conformably to their resolutions of the 5th of June, 1804.

In stating the result of these enquires they beg leave to confine themselves to a general summary, apprehending it would occupy too much of the time of the Committee to enter into detail, and requesting that any Lady who may be desirous of further particulars, will have the goodness to refer to the original correspondence laid on the table by the Secretary.

With respect to the first of the before mentioned objects, the Sub-Committee have used every means in their power to circulate the Queries, not only among their own immediate acquaintance, but among as many other persons as they could with propriety address, and whom they had any reason to believe favourably disposed to the objects of the Society.

The number of printed copies thus dispersed has been above 500, which were addressed to about 150

persons, and they have already received answers from near 60, besides many valuable communications in a less regular form. It would be highly important to the future proceedings of the Ladies Committee, that as soon as such a number of answers shall have been received as to furnish, with tolerable accuracy, any general ideas of the condition and employment of the female poor, a regular abstract should be prepared of the information which they contain; but the Sub-Committee cannot think those already received nearly so numerous as to warrant any general conclusions, and therefore can only at present most earnestly recommend to all the members of the Committee, to exert themselves to the utmost in promoting the general distribution of those Queries, conceiving that if the advantages to be derived from the establishment were to extend no further than the collection of such a mass of information, it would deserve to be considered as having rendered no inconsiderable service to the public.

They think it necessary, however, to observe, that the imperfect materials they are now possessed of, tend strongly to establish the advantages of the formation of such an institution as that of the Ladies Society, and the probable benefits to be derived from it.

With regard to the second object, the Sub-Committee have found by an extensive correspondence, as general a sense entertained of the value of the institution, and as strong a disposition to support it as could reasonably be hoped for, considering the

shortness of the time since its formation, and the limited means of correspondence which they possessed.

The number of subscriptions offered before the end of the year 1804 amounts to about 200, which, though not yet very considerable as a pecuniary fund, will be sufficient to insure the circulation of any publications the Committee may resolve on, to a very considerable number of places situated in different parts of the kingdom, and (with such additions as may reasonably be expected) to commence the execution of some of the plans of improvement they have in view. And the Sub-Committee have the satisfaction to observe, that in the short period which has already elapsed of the present year the subscriptions have continued to increase as fast as could reasonably be expected. Under this head they feel it incumbent upon them to notice two prevailing misconceptions, which have occasioned considerable prejudices against the Society, and which (though it is to be hoped the Address of the Committee may in a great degree have counteracted them) it is highly important that every Lady should exert herself to remove.—The one, that it was intended by the Society to interfere with the parochial and other local superintendence of the poor; the other, that they proposed to take the management of different charitable funds and contributions into their own hands. These misconceptions have been frequently represented to the Sub-Committee, and seem in several places to have materially

obstructed the assistance which the Society might otherwise have obtained.

With regard to the third head, that of the establishment of District Committees, the Sub-Committee have reason to believe that mistakes of such a nature as have been mentioned, and which appear to have originated in some misunderstanding of the original plan of such Committees, seem particularly to have been detrimental. The Sub-Committee have, however, the pleasure to inform the Society, that the formation either of regular District Committees, or of other associations, which though not assuming the name, seem calculated to produce the same beneficial effect, has already made some progress, and there appears great reason to hope that the footing on which the last regulations have placed the District Committees, will remove the difficulties which have hitherto opposed their increase : and the Sub-Committee have in fact received information, that measures have been taken with a view to the establishment of several others.

In conclusion, the Sub-Committee beg leave to state, that while their hopes of the ultimate benefits to be derived from the institution have been confirmed by the attention which, in conformity with the directions they received from the Committee, they have paid during the last summer to its general concerns, they feel a strong and increasing conviction that success can only be obtained by the unremitting exertions of the individuals composing the general body. The very nature of this plan makes

it entirely dependant on personal activity. The enquires and attention of every Lady will set in motion a certain number of her acquaintance, and those again exciting others, the circle of activity will be perpetually extending itself.

The benefit, indeed, derived from their exertions is by no means to be measured by their visible and public effects, or by the communications received by the Committee, and several most satisfactory instances have come to the knowledge of the Sub-Committee, in which the establishment of schools, or other beneficial institutions, has been the consequence, of their correspondence, without any direct recommendation. It may be reasonably hoped that there are few persons to whom the papers of the Society have been sent, however beneficent in their dispositions, and meritorious in their conduct towards the poor, who have not received some useful hint, or had their attention more particularly directed to some advantageous object in consequence of the communication. Thus silently, unobserved, and perhaps almost without the consciousness of those who forward its course, the current of improvement makes its way. Its progress may be slow, but it will become diffused and extensive. If the probable effects even of the limited exertions of the Sub-Committee have been so considerable, as appears by the papers on the table, what may not be hoped from the concurrent zeal and united exertions of the whole Society?

It cannot, however, be expected that very sudden

and rapid changes will take place, even when the seeds of the most important improvements have been sown. To cultivate the intellects, and reform the manners of so large a portion of the community, is an arduous task, and can only be brought about in a considerable period of time: but it seems not to exceed the powers of the Ladies Society, if impressed with the magnitude and importance of the object, they continue unremitted in their labours, neither alarmed by difficulties, nor discouraged by delay.

London, Feb. 13, 1805.

No. III.

Copy of the Report to the Society for bettering the Condition of the Poor from the Select Committee for preventing the Spreading of Contagious Malignant Fevers in the Metropolis.

THE Select Committee for preventing Contagious Fevers, take the earliest opportunity of laying before the Society the information with which they have been favoured, in answer to their Queries upon the subject of infectious Fevers. They have the pleasure of observing, that the prevalence of these Fevers in the metropolis is less, at the present time, than it has been for many years back : and that some parts of the town, where this infection had been generally and fatally prevalent, (such as Field Lane, Saffron Hill, and Spread Eagle Court in Gray's Inn Lane,) are now exempt from it; as appears by a communication, with which they have been favoured by the Rev. Mr. Barton, Rector of St. Andrew's Holborn, within whose parish those districts lie.

They have also the satisfaction of reporting (on the information of the Rev. Mr. M'Carthy, Curate of Spitalfields) that Infectious Fever does not at present prevail in that parish ;—nor (as appears by other Reports) in Westminster, nor in the neighbourhood of the Royal Exchange, except in a few narrow courts in Cripplegate, and near Coleman Street. Nor has it at any time been prevalent to

any fatal or general extent, in the airy and opulent neighbourhood of Grosvenor Square, nor in any of the western parts of the metropolis.

It appears, however, that the infection has been constantly retained in some parts of London and Westminster; where want of cleanliness and of a supply of fresh air, and neglect of medical precaution, have, from time to time, renewed the miseries of Infectious Fevers among the Poor; and that no *parochial* measures have been yet taken in the metropolis, for cleansing the habitations of the Poor, so as entirely to remove the infection. Upon this subject Dr. Richard Pearson, of Bloomsbury Square, has supplied the Committee with much useful information, both as to the local seats of the infection, and the causes and remedy thereof.

The result of his observation, as to this infection spreading thro families in the metropolis, from sources unknown and unsuspected, is confirmed by a letter, which the Committee have been favoured with by Dr. Fraser, of Lower Grosvenor Street; who observes, that in the few cases of Infectious Fever, that have come under his care, the source of infection could not by any means be traced.

The opinion of all these Gentlemen concurs in this point;—that with regular attention, there would be very few instances of Infectious Fever in London; and this is confirmed by a remarkable fact, stated by Mr. Leese, of Copthall Court, that of eight patients in *Typhus* Fever, which he attended last summer, he had reason to believe, that all

the infection originated from one individual case in Bell Alley.

The present exemption of the metropolis from Infectious Fever cannot, it must be admitted, be wholly imputed to the Fever Institution, and to the House of Recovery which it has established in Gray's Inn Lane. The effect, however, of this favourable exemption, must, in some part be ascribed to that Institution; particularly in those places within its District, which have been hitherto constantly and fatally subject to the infection of *Typhus*, and which are now reported to be exempt from it. This has been occasioned by the removal of the Fever Patients into the House of Recovery, and by the cleansing of their infected clothes and habitations, so as entirely to destroy the Contagion. The benefits which the Public has derived from the Fever Institution, have also been greatly extended by the remedy which that Institution has contributed to make known, and introduce into practice, —the application of cold and tepid affusion, in Typhus and Scarlet Fevers: a remedy which has not only miraculously abridged the patients period of suffering under the violence of disease,—so as frequently to determine in two or three days, a disorder which, in the ordinary course, might have lasted for twenty or thirty days;—but has operated by shortening the period of this contagious disease, to diminish and restrain the duration and virulence, and to prevent the spreading of the infection.

The Fever Institution has also been of great

service to the public, by the general attention which it has drawn to this important subject; a subject, in which the health and well-being, not only of the poor, but of every other class, are intimately connected. The effects of that attention and of the exertions of the Fever Institution, will appear by two circumstances, which, the Select Committee think proper to state, before they conclude this Report. The first has a reference to the Public Dispensary in Carey Street, the patients of which are within the relief of the Fever Institution. It appears from the Report of Dr. Bateman, the Physician of that Dispensary, that the number of their Fever Patients has been so reduced, since the establishment of the House of Recovery in Gray's Inn Lane, that instead of their usual average of 200 or 300 Fever Patients in the year,—only four such patients have applied in the preceding year, 1804. The other circumstance is, that by the Bills of Mortality for 1804 it appears, that the deaths of that year, from fevers of all kinds, have amounted to only 1702, being nearly one third less than the average of four preceding years, and not above half of what used to be formerly computed as the average mortality from Fevers, in the metropolis.

By Order of the Committee,

SOMERSET, Chairman.

February 15, 1805.

The Members of the Society may be furnished with Copies of this Report GRATIS, by applying to Mr. Hatchard, No. 190, Piccadilly.

No. IV.

Rewards of the Children at Campsall School.

The following rewards have been given to the Children attending at Campsall school, as an inducement to good conduct, and as the means of furnishing them with decent clothing and some useful books, during their continuance at the school, and upon their going into service.

1. **E**VERY girl who comes to school, at or as near as may be, the time appointed ;—who has her hair, face, neck, and hands quite clean, and her clothes in good order and properly mended ;—who takes pains to improve in reading and whatever else she has an opportunity of learning ;—who performs her task in sewing, knitting, straw platt, &c. and does it as well as can reasonably be expected ;—and who does not in any respect behave ill :—will each day receive a white ticket, having marked on it No. 1, 2, 3, &c.

2. On Sundays, and other days when the girls attend the school twice a day, they may if they behave well, obtain two of these tickets ; one in the morning, and the other in the afternoon.

3. If a girl is certainly known by the ladies to steal, cheat, or use bad words, either in school or out of school, or to misbehave at church, she will not only receive no ticket on the day on which she

is so detected, but will also forfeit twelve of the tickets which she had before received.

4. When a girl has one hundred of these tickets (in regular order from 1 to 100) she must return them to her teacher; and she will receive, instead of them, a prize ticket, having on it these words, "Reward of Diligence and good Behaviour," No. 1, 2, or 3, &c. Each of these tickets will intitle the owner (on continued good behaviour) to the following sums of money: which are to be given to her in necessary clothing, useful books, and a small proportion of money, when, with the approbation of the ladies, she either goes to service, or becomes an apprentice.

No.	s.	d.	No.	s.	d.	No.	s.	d.			
1	-	1	0	6	-	3	6	11	-	6	0
2	-	1	6	7	-	4	0	12	-	6	6
3	-	2	0	8	-	4	6	13	-	7	0
4	-	2	6	9	-	5	0	14	-	7	6
5	-	3	0	10	-	5	6	15	-	8	0

5. There will be no higher prize than No 15. Should any girl obtain any more than fifteen red tickets, each of the succeeding number will be of the same value as No. 15.

6. No prize ticket will be given for any number of white tickets, that is not a complete hundred. If a girl loses any of the hundred she has received, she must return to her teacher such numbers as she has remaining; but she will not receive, instead of them, a prize ticket, or be intitled to any reward.

7. If a girl leaves school with the approbation of the ladies, before she has completed her hundred,

she must return the tickets she possesses; and if she has not lost any that she received, she will have, instead of them, a present in proportion to the number of her tickets, and to the value of the prize ticket, to which, had she been able to complete her hundred, she would have been intitled.

8. Should it ever happen that a girl behaves so ill as to be dismissed the school, or that she leaves off attending without the approbation of the ladies, she will receive in clothing, all the money due to her for her sale work; but her tickets of every sort must be returned to the ladies, and they will all be forfeited.

9. Every year in the beginning of November, a day will be appointed, on which each girl's progress in reading, sewing, &c. during the preceding year will be examined; and no other business will that day be done in the school. The following rewards will be distributed to those who appear to deserve them: to those who have made suitable improvement in reading, spelling, and understanding the meaning of words, a book; in writing, and accounts, either a pencil, a penknife, pens, paper, or a writing book, &c.—in plain work, knitting with common needles, and a hook, and straw platting, either a pincushion, a workbag, a housewife, a pair of scissors, a pocket, or a pair of mitts, &c. Prizes for the different performances will be provided as nearly as possible of the same value; and each girl will be allowed to make her own choice from those allotted to the particular exercise for which

she claims a prize. To each girl who has obtained the third prize, a ticket will be given, entitling her to a reward of 2s. 6d.; the money to be paid in the same manner, as the awarding is in the prize tickets.

10. To show clearly, what improvement in work a girl has made during the course of the year, she is to give on each examination day, a small specimen; which will be preserved, and compared with what she produces on the succeeding examination days. For girls under eight years of age, the specimen is to consist of straw platt, of seaming, hemming, stitching, marking the initials of their own names, darning, and making a button hole. Specimens of writing must also be preserved, and a note specifying improvement in reading, spelling, &c. The scholars who have not attended a full year, will on the day appointed be examined along with the other scholars, as to their progress in every branch of their learning. If they produce as good specimens of work, and perform their other exercises as well as can reasonably be expected from the opportunities of improvement which they have had, they will be intitled to the different prizes, and to the annual ticket on the terms abovementioned.

11. As those girls who have attended the school regularly for several years, and behaved well, may obtain a considerable sum of reward—money; and more, perhaps, than is quite necessary for them the first year they go to service, and as some

girls who leave school, do not go to service, or become apprentices ; a part of the reward money will, in such cases, be retained by the ladies, and given to them on their marriage, or when they seem most to need it. If they continue to behave well, they will be allowed 5 per cent. interest for it. Should they not receive the whole of their reward money, before they attain the age of 21, they may then dispose of the remaining part, in what manner they think proper.

12. Every girl who can read the prayer book, and knows how to make a proper use of it at church, will have one given to her by the ladies ; or if she has one already, she will receive from them a present of some other book, about the same price.

13. The day before the anniversary of the Campsall Female Friendly Society, a straw bonnet and a coloured neck-handkerchief, will be given to every girl who has been diligent, earned as much as could reasonably be expected, and taken care of the clothes she has received during the preceding year. The same present will be made to all the new scholars as an encouragement to them to behave well.

10th April, 1805.

No. V.

Regulations proposed for Bettering the Condition of the Poor in Country Parishes. By Thomas Estcourt, Esq.

IN order to better the condition, reform the morals and habits, promote the happiness, and increase the industry of the poor, in those parishes* where it is capable of being adopted, and effectually to

* If the legislature should deem it a subject worthy its interference, it might declare that these rewards and regulations shall not be extended to, or payable in, any parish, unless application shall be made to the Bench of Justices at the Michaelmas Quarter-Sessions, by petition to such Justices from the majority of such of the payers to the poor-rate of such parish as shall be assembled in vestry, requesting them to order that the same may be so extended; and which order such Justices shall grant, if they shall think proper: or the Bench of Justices may be empowered, on receiving such petition, to order that such regulations and rewards shall not be extended to be payable in such parish, if the Bench shall be of opinion that such parish is so situated, that such rewards would not be beneficial to it, or that such regulations would not be practicable in it; or, lastly, it may be still more limited, to those parishes only who may apply, either separately or jointly, to the legislature, by private bill, praying that the same may be extended to such parishes, and defining the powers that may be required, in the same manner that parishes or districts are empowered to erect workhouses, &c.—If the preceding account, and the regulations which follow, for encouraging the extension of similar efforts to improve the condition of the labouring poor should induce persons of ability equal to the task, to turn their minds to the subject, something might be expected, more worthy the attention of the public than these few pages contain; and the person who drew it up, would be highly gratified to see it in the hands of those who are capable of doing it justice. E.

reduce the poor-rate in such parishes, the following system of regulations is submitted to the public.

That every person who shall provide and let by lease, or agreement in writing, to any poor person for any term of not less than three years, any dwelling-house or houses, or a part thereof, and shall let so much land with any such house, as that the produce of the labour the family of the person renting and inhabiting it shall be reasonably capable of performing, together with the produce of such land when duly cultivated, shall yield an income sufficient for the proper maintenance of such family, in the opinion of the officer hereinafter called the Cottage-Warden (which opinion shall be signified by his signing the lease or agreement under which such house and land shall be so let) shall be entitled to receive out of the poor-rate annually, as a reward for, or in respect of every person of such family inhabiting such house, the sum of 20s. each, so long as such persons, for or in respect of whom the same shall be demanded, shall continue to inhabit such house, and who shall have generally inhabited the same during the year for which it shall be so demanded; except that such rewards shall not be payable in the following cases; that is to say, no person shall be entitled to any of such rewards, unless the dwelling-house so let shall be, in the opinion of the Cottage-Warden, substantially built, and in good repair, and roomy enough for its inhabitants, consistent with health and decency; nor shall it be payable for any person who shall

have received relief from the poor-rate for the last year, preceding the time that such reward shall be demanded ; nor for or in respect of any person who shall have, or any one of whose family living with him or her, shall, during the like time, have been lawfully convicted of any felony or misdemeanor, for which the culprit may have been liable to fine or imprisonment ; nor for or in respect of any child born out of wedlock, of which any person inhabiting such house shall be the reputed father or mother : nor for or in respect of any person inhabiting any house, the person renting which shall occupy premises of the value of 10*l.* per ann. or more ; nor for or in respect of any person whose last legal settlement shall be at that time in any other parish ; nor for or in respect of any person in good health between the ages of fourteen and sixty ; nor for or in respect of any person possessed of any permanent income, or who shall carry on, as a master, any trade, manufacture, or profession, the produce of which income, or the clear profits of which trade, manufacture, or profession, shall be estimated by the Cottage-Warden, or Justices, to be sufficient for the proper maintenance of such person, and of his or her family : nor shall any person be entitled to any larger sum, in any one year, on account of such rewards, than such person's share of the poor's-rate shall have amounted to for the year which such rewards shall be claimed, except that if any tenant occupying lands in such parish, the property of some other person, shall not so provide and

so let dwelling-houses and lands therewith, sufficient to entitle such tenant to rewards, equal to the amount of his or her poor-rate for the year ; then the landlord of such tenant having so provided and let such dwelling-houses and land, shall be entitled to so many rewards on the same account, as shall be equal to the difference between the amount of said tenant's rewards and poor rate for the same year ; and if such tenant shall rent of two or more landlords, those of whom such tenants shall rent to the greatest amount, shall always have a prior claim to such rewards before other landlords of the same tenant.

If any person shall receive any reward on account of any poor person, and if it shall appear that the last legal settlement of such poor person was during the time for which such rewards were demanded in some other parish, then the person who shall have received the said rewards, shall re-pay the same to the Overseer for the time being, on its being demanded by the Overseer ; and, on refusal, the same may be recovered by action of debt.

The person who shall be deemed part of the family of any poor person, shall be those who, if not able to maintain themselves, such poor person might, if of sufficient ability, be obliged by law to contribute to maintain.

That there shall in future be, in every parish where there shall be any dwelling-house so let to any poor person, an officer called the Cottage-

Warden, who shall be the resident Minister of the parish for the time being, if there shall be any such resident Minister, unless any other person shall be appointed to the said office, as herein after mentioned ; but the Justices of the district, at their Easter Petty Session, when there shall be no resident Minister in any parish, or if the resident Minister shall decline to accept the said office, or if such Justices shall see any other sufficient cause, may appoint some principal inhabitant of such parish willing to accept the same, to the said office ; and if there shall be in any such parish no principal inhabitant who shall be willing to accept the said office, then the Justices may appoint any proper person in some adjoining or neighbouring parish, to the said office ; And it shall be the duty of the Cottage-Warden to examine the state of repair and condition of such dwelling house, and the quantity, quality, and situation of the land so let therewith, and shall endeavour to form a proper judgment, whether the same is let at a fair and reasonable rent ; and if he shall find that to be the case, and if, upon considering all these circumstances, it shall appear to him that the house so let will be a proper and sufficient habitation for the family of the person renting the same, and that the produce of the land, when properly cultivated, together with the produce of the labour of such family, will probably be sufficient for their maintenance, and that the last legal settlement of such poor person is in the said parish ; and if, on the lease or agreement

under which such house and land shall be so let being read over to both parties in his presence, they shall mutually acknowledge themselves to him satisfied with the covenants contained therein, and that they have signed the same, then he shall sign his name to the said lease or agreement. It shall also be the duty of the Cottage-Warden, from time to time to visit the said dwelling houses so let within his parish, and to enquire into all such particulars as may entitle, or not, the persons letting the same to such rewards as they may respectively claim on that account; and such rewards as shall appear to him to be due, he shall order to be paid by the Overseer out of the poor-rate. It shall also be the duty of the said Cottage-Warden to attend the Petty Sessions of Appeal herein after mentioned, if he shall have notice of there being any such Appeal, and shall, if required, answer to any questions relative to the same, that may be put to him by such Justices upon oath, to the best of his knowledge, judgment, and belief.

That any two Justices acting for the district may and shall, on the application of the Cottage-Warden to them, appoint some person to act as his assistant under his orders, which assistant shall and may do and execute, under his direction, any thing which such Cottage-Warden is authorized or required to do, except signing the said lease, and except determining whether such rewards are due or not, or settling any disputes that may arise between parties. The Cottage-Warden, or his assistant,

shall be entitled to receive annually, on account of every house so let (the lease of which shall be so signed by the Cottage-Warden), from the person letting the same, the sum of 5s. as a salary for his trouble; and it shall be sufficient if such assistant shall appear on behalf, and instead of the Cottage-Warden, at any time and place where he ought otherwise to appear in the execution and in pursuance of these regulations.

The Cottage-Warden, or his assistant, shall every year, in the month of January, call a meeting of such persons as shall claim such rewards, by giving notice thereof in the church, immediately after or during the time of divine service in the church, on some Sunday at least four days before such meeting shall take place for the payment of such rewards as shall be by him determined to be due, and the same shall become due the 31st December in every year; and if the Cottage-Warden, or his deputy, shall neglect or refuse to call such meeting, by giving such notice, or if such meeting shall not be attended by him, or his assistant, he shall forfeit the sum of £5. and he shall then call such meeting in the month of February, under the like penalty, and so on from month to month, till such meeting shall be held: and the Overseers, or one of them, shall attend such meeting, and pay such rewards, under the like forfeiture of £5.; and the said rewards, in case the Overseers shall not so attend and pay the same, shall be levied by warrant of distress on their goods and chattels, except that they may with-

hold those rewards, against the payment of which they shall at such meeting, give notice of Appeal to the Justices in Petty Sessions, as herein-after-mentioned, until such Appeal shall be determined.

Where there are several townships, hamlets, or tithings, in the same parish, the Justices may appoint one Cottage-Warden, and one assistant, to each separate township, hamlet, or tithing,

Where any dispute relative to the performance of any covenant contained in any lease by which any such house and land is held, shall arise between the persons letting, and the poor persons renting, the same (such lease being signed by the Cottage-Warden) the same shall be settled by the Cottage-Warden of the parish for the time being, where the same is situated, with an appeal from his determination to the Justices of the district at their Petty Sessions.

No poor person, nor any of his family living with him, who shall be in the occupation of any house and land, the lease or agreement of which shall have been signed by the Cottage-Warden, shall receive any relief from the Overseer of the Poor, out of the poor-rate, without the consent of the Cottage-Warden, or without an order from a Justice of the Peace, granted under his hand and seal; nor shall any Justice grant any such order without oath being made before him, that application has been made to such Cottage-Warden for his consent to such relief being granted, which has been refused.

If the Cottage-Warden shall refuse to sign any

such lease, either of the contracting parties may complain to some Justice of the district, who may thereon summon the Cottage-Warden, or his assistant, before the next Petty Sessions that shall be held for such district, to shew cause why such lease should not be signed ; and the Justices at such Petty Sessions, or any two of them, may sign such lease, after hearing the merits of the case, if they shall think proper ; and the person letting any house and land under such lease, shall, if the same shall be so signed, be entitled to the same rewards as though such lease had been signed by the Cottage-Warden.

If any poor person renting any dwelling-house, the lease of which shall have been signed by the Cottage-Warden, or any of his or her family, shall do any act by which the person letting the same would be deprived of any of the above rewards that would be otherwise due to him or her, the lease or agreement of such house and land shall be forfeited, and such tenants may be removed out of such house by order of a Justice of Peace, directed to the constable of the parish.

The Justice of the district shall hold a Petty Sessions before Easter every year, to hear Appeals from the determination of the Cottage-Warden, and shall issue precepts to that effect to the High Constable, twenty days before such Petty Sessions shall take place, and the High Constable shall give notice thereof to the Constables fourteen days before such Petty Sessions shall take place, and the Constables shall give notice thereof to the Cottage-

Warden, and in the church after divine service, on the next Sunday after receiving the same from the High Constable ; and any High, or other Constable failing to give such notice, shall forfeit 5*l.* to the person informing, to be levied by distress.

Any person who shall feel aggrieved by the determination of such Cottage-Warden, may appeal to such Justices of the Peace as shall be assembled at such Petty Sessions as shall be usually held for the determination of such Appeals ; and if no such Petty Sessions shall be held, or if no such notice of the time and place of holding the same shall be given in the church, then such person may appeal to any other Petty Sessions, in the same year, for the said district, and such Justices in Petty Sessions shall determine finally whether the rewards so claimed are due, and ought to be paid or not, and shall order accordingly ; and any Overseer refusing to pay such rewards as he shall be ordered to be paid by the Justices, shall forfeit the sum of 5*l.* for every reward so refused to be paid, which penalty shall be levied on his goods and chattels by warrant of distress, half of which penalty shall be paid by the person making such appeal, and half towards the discharge of the poor-rate.

8th March, 1805.

No. VI.

*Rules and Regulations, for the Management of the
Workhouse School for Females, in Gore-Lane, Ken-
sington.*

THIS establishment having been formed for the express purpose of removing the YOUNGER FEMALE POOR from every incitement to VICE, by bad example, and of training them to early habits of VIRTUE and INDUSTRY, so as to qualify them to be useful and valuable members of the community, in that humble station of life, in which they are most likely to be placed :—and the Trustees of the poor being of opinion that its success will principally depend on a judicious selection of the children to be benefited by it, and the means to be pursued for securing their future good conduct,

RESOLVE,

That none but such children as seem to be well disposed, and free from vice, to be admitted into this school.

That the mistress, who is constantly to reside at the school, shall employ herself wholly in the care and management of the children; and that she make a return monthly, and oftener if necessary, to the Board of Trustees, of the health and particular behaviour of the children, with any other matters, which may occur.

That the children be admitted *only* by an ORDER from the BOARD OF TRUSTEES, and, that no child be permitted to be absent from the school, except under special and urgent circumstances, of which the mistress must be satisfied ; nor for more than one day, without an order from the Board.— That no child, who shall remain out, beyond that time, be readmitted, without a like order. And that the mistress keep an account of all such absences, and report them.

That no relation, or acquaintance of the children be permitted to visit them on Sundays, nor oftener than *once* a fortnight, on other days ; and then only, between the hours of *one* and *two*, without an ORDER of the BOARD of TRUSTEES, cases of illness excepted.

That the hour of breakfast be eight in the morning, from *Lady-Day*, to *Michaelmas-Day*, and nine from *Michaelmas* to *Lady-Day* ; that of dinner, both during the summer and winter months, to be at half past twelve ; of supper, during the summer half year, at seven, and the winter, at six : and that prayers be read, before breakfast, and after supper, and grace said before and after each meal ; and, that the mistress constantly attend, and see due order observed.

That the children do say a short and suitable prayer on their going to rest, and, rising, in the morning, always *kneeling* ; and that every possible care be unremittingly taken, to inculcate the prin-

ciples of religion, propriety of behaviour, and constant cleanliness.

That the children attend divine service at church, with the mistress, twice a day, on Sundays, Good Fridays, Christmas Day, and Public Fasts and Thanksgivings.

That the children be employed in work, and receiving instructions, from breakfast till supper, allowing such time for recreation as may be deemed most expedient, according to the ages of the children and the seasons of the year.

That all irregularities, neglects, offences, and wilful faults of the children, be immediately noticed, and reproved by the mistress; that disobedience and obstinacy be carefully corrected; and that a wilful *lie*, or *swearing*, (if such a thing be possible,) or *pilfering*, never be suffered to pass, without correction.—For the three last (if private) the offender to be strongly admonished, *privately*, as the mistress may think proper.—If public, the offender to be placed with her face to the wall, during the next meal, and a paper pinned to her back, written upon, “LIAR,” “BLASPHEMER,” or THIEF,” and not allowed to eat, till the rest have done, and be kept all that day from play; nor shall she be restored to favour, till she shall have made the following confession, in the presence of the mistress and the children:—“*I have sinned, in telling a lye, or (by swearing,) or (thieving:) I will take more care,—I hope God will forgive me*” And if these offences be often repeated, then to be reported, and

the offender brought before the Board of Trustees, who will order her to be REMOVED FROM THE SCHOOL, or will inflict such other punishment; as may appear to them to be proper.

That the mistress be particularly enjoined not to suffer the children to be terrified by being confined in the dark, or with any idle tales.

That the benevolent ladies who have so kindly and generously interested themselves in this establishment, (of the value of whose exertions the Trustees are highly sensible,) be requested to continue their visits, and to write their observations respecting the management of the children, and any improvements that they may think necessary to suggest, in a book, to be kept for that purpose. And that those observations be considered at the following Board.

3^d Jan. 1805.

No. VII.

Copy of the Regulations of the Kensington Lads' Society, for the Care of the Schools, and the Promotion of the Welfare of the Female Poor.—This Society consists of nearly Sixty Ladies; seven of whom are Visitors of the Charity School; each taking a Particular Day in the Week, and one branch of Instruction for the Children; four of the Ladies visit the Workhouse School, and twelve of them superintend the Sunday School and School of Industry, each taking one Month in the Year.

1. **T**HAT the object of these ladies be the care of the schools, and the superintendence of the female poor, as far as the means of life and domestic occupations of each will permit.

2. That these ladies, or as many of them as can make it convenient, meet once a month (or oftener if any particular case require it at each others houses to discuss different subjects of benefit to the poor and schools; and that the lady, at whose house they meet, be the President for the evening; and that she recommend one poor woman as the object of charity for the evening, towards whose relief each lady subscribe one shilling.

3. That this object of charity must be personally known to the lady who recommends her, as a woman of good character, industry, and sobriety; and under circumstances of distress, which makes her at that time a particular object of charity.

4. That the ladies take into consideration the particulars of her situation, and consult together on the best means of employing the evening contribution, and that the name, circumstances, and mode of relief, be entered in a book kept for that purpose.

5. That each lady be requested to save all the old linen, flannel, and other useful articles she can spare in her family, to assist lying-in-women; which, if made up into little caps, shirts, &c. by those who have leisure, will be the more valuable; and that these things be presented at the monthly meeting, and disposed of according to Mrs. Ormerod's recommendation, unless particular objects are known by any of the ladies.

6. That the improvement and welfare of the schools be discussed at these meetings, and any useful proposals be suggested on the subject.

7. That the objects of charity proposed, and all the proceedings of this meeting, be laid before the Rev. Mr. Ormerod for his approbation.

8. That any ladies not wishing to join this Society, but at the same time being desirous to contribute to the fund for the benefit of the poor, be requested to send their subscription to Mrs. Ormerod; and if they desire any particular mode of employing it, they signify the same in writing.

13th Feb. 1805.

No. VIII.

The following Paper is the production of our late excellent friend, Mr. Gilpin. We have inserted it in the Appendix, in order that the members of the Society and others may be enabled, if they think fit, to print and distribute it among their poor neighbours.

AN old man, whose name was Jonas Hobson, had supported a large family with industry, and had endeavoured to bring them up in the fear of God. He instructed them with all the knowledge he had himself, but chiefly gave them that best instruction,—a good example. He went constantly to church, read his Bible on Sundays, was gentle and kind to every body ; was never known either to swear or to get drunk, and prayed morning and evening, for God's blessing on himself and his family.

Being worn out at length by age and hard labour, and finding death approaching, he called his sons together, who were now young men, and raising himself in his bed, he thus spoke to them :

“ What little advice I could give you, my dear children, has, I hope, by the blessing of God, kept you, thus far, honest and sober. I am now going to be removed from you ; and as I have no worldly goods to leave among you, I have called you round my death bed, to give you my last blessing and advice ; which will be a better legacy to you if you

will keep it, than if I had left you my house full of riches.

“ This is a very wicked place in which you live. People seem to have lost all fear of God. What swearing, what drinking, what lying, and wickedness, of all kinds do we see! when I was young, there were no such doings. The church was then followed more, and the ale-house less. Justices, then, would not suffer such shameful work; and inn-keepers durst not entertain a guest in church time.

“ But now, as if ale-houses were not enough, what a number of wicked pot-houses has the devil set up in every part of the parish! Good Lord! it is enough to make one's hair stand on end, to hear of such doings. There is hardly a part of the parish, where you may not find one of these bad houses. Here the devil keeps school. Here he gets together wicked people: who draw in poor lads, and teach them to curse and to swear; to go after cock-fights and barrels of beer; and to neglect both their business and their church. Good Lord! I often wonder the earth does not open and swallow them up; as you read in the Bible it once swallowed up some wicked people.

“ I have often, my dear sons, warned you against these vile houses; and I believe you have yet never frequented them. But I am now going to leave you. What temptations you may afterwards meet with, God knows; but I hope, my dying words will sink deep into you. Depend upon

it, these bad houses are the beginning of all wickedness. Many a poor lad might have done well, if he had not been drawn into these wicked places.

“ Look at those, I beseech you, who frequent them. You will always find them idle profligate people ; esteemed by nobody, and doing good to nobody ; suffering their poor families, if they have any, to grow up in rags and nastiness.

“ Then again, look at those who frequent the church. Generally speaking, you will see them orderly industrious people, who have either led good lives, or have left off their wickedness and become good.

“ I beg of you, therefore, my dear sons, and charge you, on my blessing, that, while you live in this world, you will observe these two things : FOLLOW THE CHURCH, and AVOID THE POT HOUSE. You will then be in the way of learning good, and out of the way of learning evil. And, though you have but little of this world's wealth, I hope God's blessing will attend you, and, when this world ends, he will carry you to a better.”

The old man, having said these words, shook his sons affectionately by the hand, prayed for God's blessing upon them ; and then desired that nobody might interrupt him in his last moments. He then turned his face to the wall, lay quiet and composed ; was often seen to lift his hand gently to heaven, and once or twice to stretch it out, and grasp the hands of his sons, who sat round him in silent sorrow.

Thus he lay about two hours; and breathed out his pious soul at nine o'clock that evening.

He had been so good a man, that the parson, without being desired, gave him a fine character on Sunday: and, as they were going out of church, one of the people said, *he wished that character was his*. The parson, overhearing him, turned round and asked, *Why then, Thomas, don't you make it so?* The parson afterwards spoke to the 'squire, and they joined together, and put up a stone over his grave, with this inscription:—Here lies the body of Jonas Hobson, formerly of this parish, now a saint in heaven. He was a pious man, and set a good example to a wicked place. You, who did not follow his example during his life, follow it now, after his death, and the Lord will yet be merciful unto you. His mortal life began July 3, 1705. His immortal life, Jan. 19, 1779.

3d May, 1805.

No. IX.

On the Effect of the legal Establishment of Parochial Schools in Scotland. By James Currie, M. D.

A SLIGHT acquaintance with the peasantry of Scotland, will serve to convince an unprejudiced observer, that they possess a degree of intelligence not generally found among the same class of men in the other countries of Europe. In the very humblest condition of the Scottish peasants, every one can read, and most persons are more or less skilled in writing and arithmetic ; and, under the disguise of their uncouth appearance, and of their peculiar manners and dialect, a stranger will discover that they possess a curiosity, and have obtained a degree of information, corresponding to these acquirements.

These advantages they owe to the legal provision made by the Parliament of Scotland in 1646, for the establishment of a school in every parish throughout the kingdom, for the express purpose of educating the poor ; a law which may challenge comparison with any act of legislation to be found in the records of history, whether we consider the wisdom of the ends in view, the simplicity of the means employed, or the provisions made to render these means effectual to their purpose. This excellent statute was repealed on the accession of Charles II. in 1660, together with all the other laws passed during the commonwealth, as not being

sanctioned by the royal assent. It slept during the reigns of Charles and James, but was re-enacted precisely in the same terms, by the Scottish Parliament, after the revolution, in 1696; and this is the last provision on the subject. Its effects on the national character may be considered to have commenced about the period of the Union; and doubtless it co-operated with the peace and security arising from that happy event, in producing the extraordinary change in favour of industry and good morals, which the character of the common people of Scotland has since undergone.

The Church Establishment of Scotland happily coincides with the institution just mentioned, which may be called its school establishment. The clergyman, being every where resident in his particular parish, becomes the natural patron and superintendant of the parish school, and is enabled in various ways to promote the comfort of the teacher, and the proficiency of the scholars. The teacher himself is often a candidate for holy orders, who, during the long course of study and probation required in the Scottish Church, renders the time which can be spared from his professional studies useful to others as well as to himself, by assuming the respectable character of a schoolmaster. It is common for the established schools, even in the country parishes of Scotland, to enjoy the means of classical instruction;* and many of the farmers,

* Church music is likewise a part of the education of the peasantry of Scotland, in which they are usually instructed.

and some even of the cottagers, submit to much privation, that they may obtain, for one of their sons at least, the precarious advantage of a learned education. The difficulty to be surmounted arises, indeed, not from the expense of instructing their children, but from the charge of supporting them. In the country parish schools, the English language, writing, and accounts, * are generally taught at the rate of six shillings, and Latin at the rate of ten shillings per annum. In the towns the prices are somewhat higher.

The information and the religious education of

in the long winter nights by the parish school-master, who, is generally the precentor, or by itinerant teachers more celebrated for their powers of voice.

* That dancing should also be very generally a part of the education of the Scottish peasantry, will surprize those who have only seen this description of men; and still more those, who reflect on the rigid spirit of Calvinism with which the nation is so deeply affected, and to which this recreation is strongly abhorrent. The winter is also the season when they acquire dancing, and indeed almost all their other instruction. They are taught to dance by persons generally of their own number, many of whom work at daily labour during the summer months. The school is usually a barn, and the *arena* for the performers is generally a clay floor. The dome is lighted by candles stuck in one end of a cloven stick, the other end of which is thrust into the wall. Reels, strathspeys, country-dances, and hornpipes, are here practised. The jig, so much in favour among the English peasantry, has no place among them. The attachment of the people of Scotland of every rank, and particularly of the peasantry, to this amusement, is very great. After the labours of the day are over, young men and women walk many miles, in the cold and dreary nights of winter, to the country-dancing schools; and the instant that the violin sounds a Scottish air, fatigue seems to vanish, the toil-bent rustic becomes erect, his features brighten with sympathy; every nerve seems to thrill with sensation, and every artery to vibrate with life.

the peasantry of Scotland, promote sedateness of conduct, and habits of thought and reflection.— These good qualities are not counteracted by the establishment of poor-laws, which, while they reflect credit on the benevolence, detract from the wisdom of the English legislature. To make a legal provision for the inevitable distresses of the poor, who by age or diseases, are rendered incapable of labour, may indeed seem an indispensable duty of society; and if, in the execution of a plan for this purpose, a distinction could be introduced, so as to exclude from its benefits those whose sufferings are produced by idleness or profligacy, such an institution would perhaps be as rational as humane. But to lay a general tax on property for the support of poverty, from whatever cause proceeding, is a measure full of danger. It must operate in a considerable degree as an incitement to idleness, and a discouragement to industry. It takes away from vice and indolence the prospect of their most dreaded consequences, and from virtue and industry their peculiar sanctions. In many cases it must render the rise in the price of labour, not a blessing but a curse to the labourer; who, if there be an excess in what he earns beyond his immediate necessities, may be expected to devote this excess to his present gratification; trusting to the provision made by law for his own and his family's support, should disease suspend, or death terminate his labours. Happily in Scotland, the same legislature which established a system of instruction for the poor,

resisted the introduction of a legal provision for the support of poverty ; the establishment of the first, and the rejection of the last, were equally favourable to industry and good morals ; and hence it will not appear surprising, if the Scottish peasantry have a more than usual share of prudence and reflection, if they approach nearer than persons of their order usually do, to the definition of a man, that of “ a being that looks before and after.”

A striking particular in the character of the Scottish peasantry, is one which it is hoped will not be lost—the strength of their domestic attachments. The privations to which many parents submit for the good of their children, and particularly to obtain for them instruction, which they consider as the chief good, has already been noticed. If their children live and prosper, they have their certain-reward, not merely as witnessing, but as sharing of their prosperity. Even in the humblest ranks of the peasantry, the earnings of the children may generally be considered as at the disposal of their parents ; perhaps in no country is so large a portion of the wages of labour applied to the support and comfort of those whose days of labour are past. A similar strength of attachment extends through all the domestic relations.

1st May, 1800.

No. X.

The following Report of the medical Committee of the Jennerian Society, on the subject of Vaccination, has been subscribed by 21 Physicians and 29 Surgeons of the first eminence in the Metropolis; and has been ordered to be printed and circulated among the members of the Society. It is inserted here, with a view to its more extensive circulation.

THE Medical Council of the Royal Jennerian Society, having been informed that various cases had occurred, which excited prejudices against Vaccine Inoculation, and tended to check the progress of that important discovery in this kingdom, appointed a Committee of twenty-five of their members to inquire, not only into the nature and truth of such cases, but also into the evidence respecting instances of Small pox, alledged to have occurred twice in the same person.

In consequence of this reference, the Committee made diligent inquiry into the history of a number of cases, in which it was supposed that Vaccination had failed to prevent the Small-pox, and also of such cases of Small-pox, as were stated to have happened subsequently to the natural or inoculated Small-pox.

In the course of their examination the Committee learned, that opinions and assertions had been advanced and circulated, which charged the Cow

pox with rendering patients liable to particular diseases, frightful in their appearance, and hitherto unknown; and judging such opinions to be connected with the question as to the efficacy of the practice, they thought it incumbent upon them to examine also into the validity of these injurious statements respecting Vaccination.

After a very minute investigation of these subjects, the result of their inquiries has been submitted to the Medical Council; and from the Report of the Committee it appears:

I. That most of the cases, which have been urged in proof of the inefficiency of Vaccination, and which have been the subjects of public attention and conversation, are either wholly unfounded, or grossly misrepresented.

II. That other cases, brought forward as instances of the failure of Vaccination to prevent the Small-pox, are now allowed, by the very persons who first related them, to have been erroneously stated.

III. That the statements of the greater part of those cases have been already carefully investigated, ably discussed, and fully refuted, by different writers on the subject.

IV. That notwithstanding the most incontestable proofs of such misrepresentations, a few medical men have persisted in repeatedly bringing the same unfounded and refuted reports, and misrepresentations before the public, thus perversely and disin-

generously labouring to excite prejudices against Vaccination.

V. That in some printed accounts adverse to Vaccination, in which the writers had no authenticated facts to support the opinions they advanced, nor any resonable arguments to maintain them, the subject has been treated with indecent and disgusting levity; as if the good or evil of society were fit objects for sarcasm and ridicule.

VI. That when the practice of Vaccination was first introduced and recommended by Dr. Jenner, many persons, who had never seen the effects of the vaccine fluid on the human system, who were almost wholly unacquainted with the history of Vaccination, the characteristic marks of the genuine vesicle, and the cautions necessary to be observed in the management of it, and were therefore incompetent to decide whether patients were properly vaccinated or not, nevertheless ventured to inoculate for the Cow-pox.

VII. That many persons have been declared duly vaccinated, when the operation was performed in a very negligent and unskilful manner, and when the inoculator did not afterwards see the patients, and therefore could not ascertain whether infection had taken place or not; and that to this cause are certainly to be attributed many of the cases adduced in proof of the inefficacy of Cow-pox.

VIII. That some cases have been brought before the Committee, on which they could form no decisive opinion, from the want of necessary information

as to the regularity of the preceding Vaccination, or the reality of the subsequent appearance of the Small-pox.

IX. That it is admitted by the Committee that a few cases have been brought before them, of persons having the Small-pox, who had apparently passed through the Cow-pox in a regular way.

X. That cases, supported by evidence equally strong, have been also brought before them, of persons who, after having once regularly passed through the Small-pox, either by inoculation or natural infection, have had that disease a second time.

XI. That in many cases, in which the Small-pox has occurred a second time, after inoculation or the natural disease, such recurrence has been particularly severe, and often fatal; whereas, when it has appeared after Vaccination, the disease has generally been so mild, as to lose some of its characteristick marks, and in many instances, to render its existence doubtful.

XII. That it is a fact well ascertained, that in some particular states of certain constitutions, whether vaccine or variolous matter be employed, a local disease only will be excited by inoculation, the constitution remaining unaffected; yet that matter taken from such local vaccine or variolous pustule is capable of producing a general and perfect disease.

XIII. That if a person, bearing the strongest and most indubitable marks of having had the

Small-pox, be repeatedly inoculated for that disease, a pustule may be produced, the matter of which will communicate the disease to those who have not been previously infected.

XIV. That, although it is difficult to determine precisely the number of exceptions to the practice, the Medical Council are fully convinced, that the failure of Vaccination, as a preventive of the Small-pox, is a very rare occurrence.

XV. That of the immense number who have been vaccinated in the army and navy, in different parts of the United Kingdom, and in every quarter of the globe, scarcely any instances of such failure have been reported to the Committee, but those which are said to have occurred in the Metropolis, or its vicinity.

XVI. That the Medical Council are fully assured, that in very many places, in which the Small-pox raged with great violence, the disease has been speedily and effectually arrested in its progress, and in some populous cities almost wholly exterminated, by the practice of Vaccination.

XVII. That the practice of inoculation for the Small-pox, on its first introduction into this country, was opposed and very much retarded, in consequence of misrepresentations and arguments drawn from assumed facts, and of miscarriages arising from the want of correct information, similar to those now brought forward against Vaccination, so that nearly fifty years elapsed before Small-pox inoculation was fully established.

XVIII. That by a reference to the bills of mortality, it will appear that, to the unfortunate neglect of Vaccination, and to the prejudices raised against it, we may, in a great measure, attribute the loss of nearly two thousand lives by the Small-pox, in this Metropolis alone, within the present year.

XIX. That the few instances of failure either in the inoculation of the Cow-pox, or of the Small-pox, ought not to be considered as objections to either practice, but merely as deviations from the ordinary course of nature.

XX. That, from all the facts which they have been able to collect, it appears to the Medical Council, that the Cow-pox is generally mild and harmless in its effects; and no instance has come to their knowledge, in which there was reason to admit, that Vaccine Inoculation had, of itself, produced any new or dangerous disease, as has been ignorantly and unwarrantably asserted; but that the few cases, which have been alleged against this opinion, may be fairly attributed to other causes.

XXI. That if a comparison be made between the effects of Vaccination, and those of inoculation for the Small-pox, it would be necessary to take into account the greater number of persons who have been vaccinated within a given time, it being probable, that within the last seven years, nearly as many persons have been inoculated for the Cow-pox, as were ever inoculated for the Small pox, since the practice was introduced into this kingdom.

XXII. That many well-known cutaneous dis-

eases, and some scrophulous complaints, have been represented as the effects of Vaccine Inoculation, when in fact they originated from other causes, and in many instances occurred long after Vaccination, but that such diseases are infinitely less frequent after Vaccination than after either the natural or inoculated Small-pox.

Having stated these facts, and made these observations, the Medical Council cannot conclude their Report upon a subject so highly important and interesting to all classes of the community, without making this solemn declaration :

That, in their opinion, founded on their own individual experience, and the information which they have been able to collect from that of others, mankind have already derived great and incalculable benefit from the discovery of Vaccination : and that it is their full belief, that the sanguine expectations of advantage and security, which have been formed from the inoculation of the Cow-pox, will be ultimately and completely fulfilled.

25th Nov. 1805.

No. XI.

Account of the Management of Bees on Mount Hymettus, in Greece. By George Wheler, Esquire.

“THE hives which they keep their bees in, are made of willows, or osiers, fashioned like our common dust baskets, wide at the top, and narrow at the bottom; and plaistered with clay, or loam, within and without.* They are set the wide end upwards. The tops being covered with broad flat sticks, are also plaistered with clay at the top; and to secure them from the weather, they cover them with a tuft of straw, as we do. Along each of those sticks, the bees fasten their combs; so that a comb may be taken out whole, without the least bruising, and with the greatest ease imaginable. To increase them in spring-time, that is, in March or April, until the beginning of May, they divide them; first separating the sticks, on which the combs and bees are fastened, from one another with a knife: so taking out the first comb and bees together, on each side, they put them into another basket, in the same order as they were taken out, until they have equally divided them. After this, when they are both

* This account is extracted from Wheler's Journey through Greece, page 412; and it is inserted here, for the information of those of our readers, who have adopted the plan of encouraging their cottagers to keep Bees, as an object of profit.

again accommodated with sticks and plaister, they set the new basket in the place of the old one, and the old one in some new place. And all this they do in the middle of the day, at such time as the greatest part of the bees are abroad; who at their coming home, without much difficulty, by this means divide themselves equally. This device hinders them from swarming, and flying away. In August they take out their honey; which they do in the day time also, while they are abroad; the bees being thereby, they say, disturbed least. At which time they take out the combs laden with honey, as before; that is, beginning at each outside, and so taking away, until they have left only such a quantity of combs in the middle, as they judge will be sufficient to maintain the bees in winter; sweeping those bees, that are on the combs they take out, into the basket again, and again covering it with new sticks and plaister. All that I doubt concerning the practice of this in England, is, that perhaps they may gather a less quantity of honey; and that, should they take the like quantity of honey from the bees here in England, they would not leave enough to preserve them in winter. But this hinders not much: for by being less covetous, and not taking so much honey from the poor bees, the great increase and multiplying of them would soon equalize, and far exceed the little profit we make by destroying of them. This is done without smoak; wherefore the antients call this honey, *unsmoaken honey*: and I believe the

smoak of sulphur, which we use, takes away very much of the fragrancy of the wax ; and sure I am, the honey can receive neither good taste, nor good smell from it."

25th Feb. 18c6.

No. XII.

The following Report was made by a Select Committee, in consequence of a reference from the Board of Directors of the ROYAL JENNERIAN SOCIETY. It was presented to the Board in July last; and having been approved by the Directors, was communicated to the Medical Council of the Society, who, upon reference to the Documents on which it was founded, also expressed their full approbation of the Report.

IN pursuance of the reference from the Board of Directors of the 30th of May 1805, to the Committee to inquire whether, notwithstanding the Parliamentary grant of £10,000. Dr. Jenner is not actually a sufferer in his income and pecuniary circumstances, in consequence of the time which he has devoted to his valuable discovery of Vaccine Inoculation, and of the various expences incident thereto, we have thought it better first to refer to the evidence which was delivered on the same subject, in March and April 1802, before a Committee of the House of Commons.—That testimony, indeed, appears of the highest authority; being given by 45 respectable persons, 23 of them physicians of the first eminence, and the others either persons of high rank, or well known and distinguished medical characters; concurring in

the strongest and most consistent evidence, that has, perhaps, been adduced upon any subject.

The result of that examination went to prove that a period of near twenty years of labour and attention had intervened between Dr. Jenner's first investigation in 1777,* of the circumstances which led to Vaccination, and the completion of a discovery which has proved so interesting and important to mankind, and has produced so extraordinary a reduction in the mortality not only of London, but of other places:† that when, at length, its nature and value were ascertained by him in 1796, it still remained in his power to have kept the secret to himself, and to have made by it £10,000. a year, or probably a much greater sum: but that by gratuitously divulging the secret, and publishing the detailed mode of operation, he had given up to the public the whole advantage, and had relinquished the opportunity of making his fortune.

Upon this evidence, the House of Commons voted Dr. Jenner the sum of £10,000. as a compensation for his personal attention, private expense, and professional sacrifices anterior to that period; but as the Committee conceives, without an idea of further services, or sacrifices, to be made by him

* Dr. Jenner's attention was first drawn to the subject in 1771.

† In Vienna, Berlin, and Copenhagen, the disease of the Small-pox is nearly extinguished. While we rejoice at such an event, it is painful to notice that the systematic opposition to Vaccination, has increased the mortality of the Small-pox in the metropolis. 4 Sep. 1807.

in diffusing the benefits of Vaccination. On the contrary, it appears that several members entertained an opinion, that Dr. Jenner's income and professional advantages would be greatly increased by the discovery; and that it would lead to much more extensive and lucrative practice as a physician.

The contrary of this, we are satisfied, from what Dr. Jenner has personally stated to us, and from other information, has been the case. The instructions which he gave as to Vaccine Inoculation in his publication in 1798, followed soon after by other directions, were so explicit and correct, that not only medical men, but other persons, who pay a careful attention to them, may thereby be enabled to perform the operation and conduct the process with success. Besides Dr. Jenner has not only sustained a diminution of professional income, but has had an increase of positive expense.—In the year 1798, when he published this discovery, he resided at Berkeby in Gloucestershire, and possessed the medical practice of that immediate neighbourhood. His attendance in town, and his attention to the progress of the new discovery, have been the causes of two other physicians being now settled in the immediate vicinage of Berkeby; and, at present, Dr. Jenner participates with them in that professional practice, which he had formerly enjoyed, and but for the Jennerian discovery, he might have continued to enjoy alone. Again, it is to be observed that those applications on the subject of Vaccination, that require attention and investigation

(whether of Great Britain or from any other part of the world) are more frequently addressed to Dr. Jenner, than to the Secretary of the Society ; and these have been so numerous, that great part of Dr. Jenner's professional time has been engaged in this way, without any profit whatever. We also think ourselves authorized in stating, that while his general practice is greatly prejudiced by these circumstances, his average receipts for Vaccination have not amounted to £100. a year for some time past : and it is worthy of attention, that this has been occasioned by the unreserved manner in which he communicated the discovery ; when (as appears from the evidence of Sir Walter Farquhar, Dr. Lettsom, Dr. Sims, Dr. Bradley, and other persons of the first eminence) he might have kept the secret entirely to himself, and have thereby accumulated an immense fortune.

Instead, however, of great pecuniary advantages, it appears to the Committee, that his diminution of professional income, from his disinterested conduct in respect of the discovery, cannot be stated at less than £600. a year ; and that his other losses on account of the number of applications made to him, and in postage and attendance, the employment of assistants, and a variety of incidental expences must amount to £200. a year more. In the mean time this discovery has preserved to the army and navy, the lives of many thousands of useful men : and has diffused its benefits through every part, not only of the United Kingdom, but also of

its foreign dominions, in the East and West Indies. We have also had the honor and gratification of supplying this preventive against a loathsome and fatal disease, to France, Germany, Spain,* Italy, Russia, and America; in all which countries its blessings have been received with gratitude, and its advantages diffused with public care and attention, and with the most beneficial effects.

4th July, 1805.

* See the curious account in the 28th Report of the *viage round the globe*, by order of the Spanish Government, for extending the benefits of Vaccination.

No. XIII.

Statement of the Medical Report of the London House of Recovery, for the Year 1805. By Thomas Bateman, M. D.

No. I. 25th January 1805.—For some time past no pure typhus has fallen under our notice. All the seven patients, who have been admitted during the last two months,* have laboured under fevers arising from cold, accompanied with some inflammation of the lungs, and without any evidence of their nature being contagious; although they showed some of the symptoms which characterise typhus. The patient in whom the disease proved fatal, died on the second day after his admission, in consequence of the severity of the inflammation of the lungs, as was proved by dissection after death. All the courts and alleys, within the district of the Carey-street Dispensary, where typhus heretofore prevailed, remain entirely free from the disease.†

No. II. 22d February 1805.—Four patients were admitted since the last Report. They have had very mild fevers. Three of them were solitary instances

* Four patients had remained in the house. During this period nine were dismissed cured; one died, and one remained in the house when this Report was made

† These Reports are periodically made by the Physician of the House of Recovery, and read at the meetings of the Committee of the Fever Institution.

in which the origin could not be traced to contagion, nor did the disease extend beyond the individuals thus attacked. And in the fourth case, no suspicion of contagion would have arisen from the symptoms, had not three children been attacked in a similar way, a little before the patient, who was removed to the house; the children had recovered. One application was made from a house in Golden-lane, Old-street, where several persons had been attacked with fever, of whom two had died, and a third had been removed to St. Luke's, in a state of lunacy in consequence. On visiting the place I found the last individual, who had been attacked, in a dying state, with the worst symptoms of *typhus*. It was too late to save the patient's life; but the room has since been fumigated and whitewashed at the expense of the Institution, in order to prevent the spreading of the disease among the future tenants. This is the only instance of *malignant typhus*, which has come under my notice during the last three months.

No. III. 29th March 1805.—The applications have been more numerous since the last report, than during the same space for some months past, and the fevers have been more decidedly of a contagious nature. Four of the patients* were from one family, and four more from two other families in which other individuals had been previously affected, and two

* Thirteen were admitted this month in addition to one patient in the house. Of these five remained in the house at the time of this Report, eight had been dismissed cured, and one had died.

deaths had occurred. The patient who died in the house, was admitted on the twelfth day of the fever, with a number of virulent symptoms, which rapidly increased, and terminated fatally within 48 hours from her admission. Five apartments have been fumigated and whitewashed.

No. IV. 26th April 1805.—There is at present no patient in the house.* The fever, which, from the number of applications in the last month, was judged to be increasing, seems to be not more prevalent, in fact, than it has been for some months past: nor have the instances, which have come under our care during the present month, been of a very virulent nature. One patient was admitted from the neighbourhood of Blackfriars Road, in consequence of a note from an apothecary, stating that her disorder was *typhus*: but it was, in fact, a severe hooping cough. She was sent home again, not only as an unfit object of the institution, but because there were several children in the house, at that time, convalescent from *typhus*, who might possibly have received the contagion of the hooping cough.

No. V. 28th June 1805.—Some of the cases† in the two preceding months, exhibited marks of considerable virulence; especially those of one of the two men who died, and of his two daughters. The latter recovered; and it is probable that the habit of

* Ten fever patients were dismissed cured in this month.

† Fourteen were admitted; of whom one remained in the house, two died, and eleven were dismissed cured.

intoxication, to which the father had been long accustomed, was the cause of the determination to the head, which produced a furious and unmanageable delirium, that terminated in his death. The other man who died, came in about the tenth day of the disease, with every bad symptom. The rest were mostly single cases, and their origin could not be traced.

No. VI. 30th August 1805.—Several of the cases of these two months* were of a considerably severe nature, with very obvious marks of contagion. In three instances two, and in one instance three, of the patients were members of one family; and in others some of the family had previously suffered under the disease. Yet the contagion, in all the examples, seems to have originated in the families who applied to the Institution, as it could not be traced farther: and it is probable, therefore, that in several, the Institution has been the means of arresting its progress; and saving other individuals from the infection.—Two of the cases were scarlet fever, admitted by mistake, during my absence from town.

No. VII. 27th September 1805.—During the last month there have been only four applications to the Institution; fevers appear to have been of rare occurrence. One patient died, who had been affected with one of the most malignant fevers, that I ever witnessed. She was a little indisposed on

* Eighteen were admitted in addition to one patient in the house. Of these two remained in the house, and seventeen were dismissed cured.

Sunday, (the 22d) and on Monday became very ill; on Tuesday her skin was covered with dark purple spots: on Wednesday, a little after twelve o'clock, she was received into the house, perfectly collected, and about nine the same evening sunk, and died; the skin immediately became black from head to foot, as if she had been lashed all over with a whip. I have not yet ascertained the source of the infection; but no other individual in the family has yet suffered.

No. VIII. 29th November 1805.—Eleven patients were admitted in the month of October, and two in the present month.* Where typhus has occurred, it has shewn no tendency to spread: for in all the cases, the individuals affected were unable to trace the source of their complaints, nor did the contagion extend to others. The man who died laboured under one of those unfortunate combinations of *typhus* fever with inflammation of the lungs, which too frequently resist the powers of medicine. One of the patients was received from the workhouse of St. Andrew's Holborn, and the overseers of that parish have given two guineas to the Inspector on her account.

Besides the patients above mentioned, a woman was received from the parish of——† in a dying state, and expired almost immediately after she

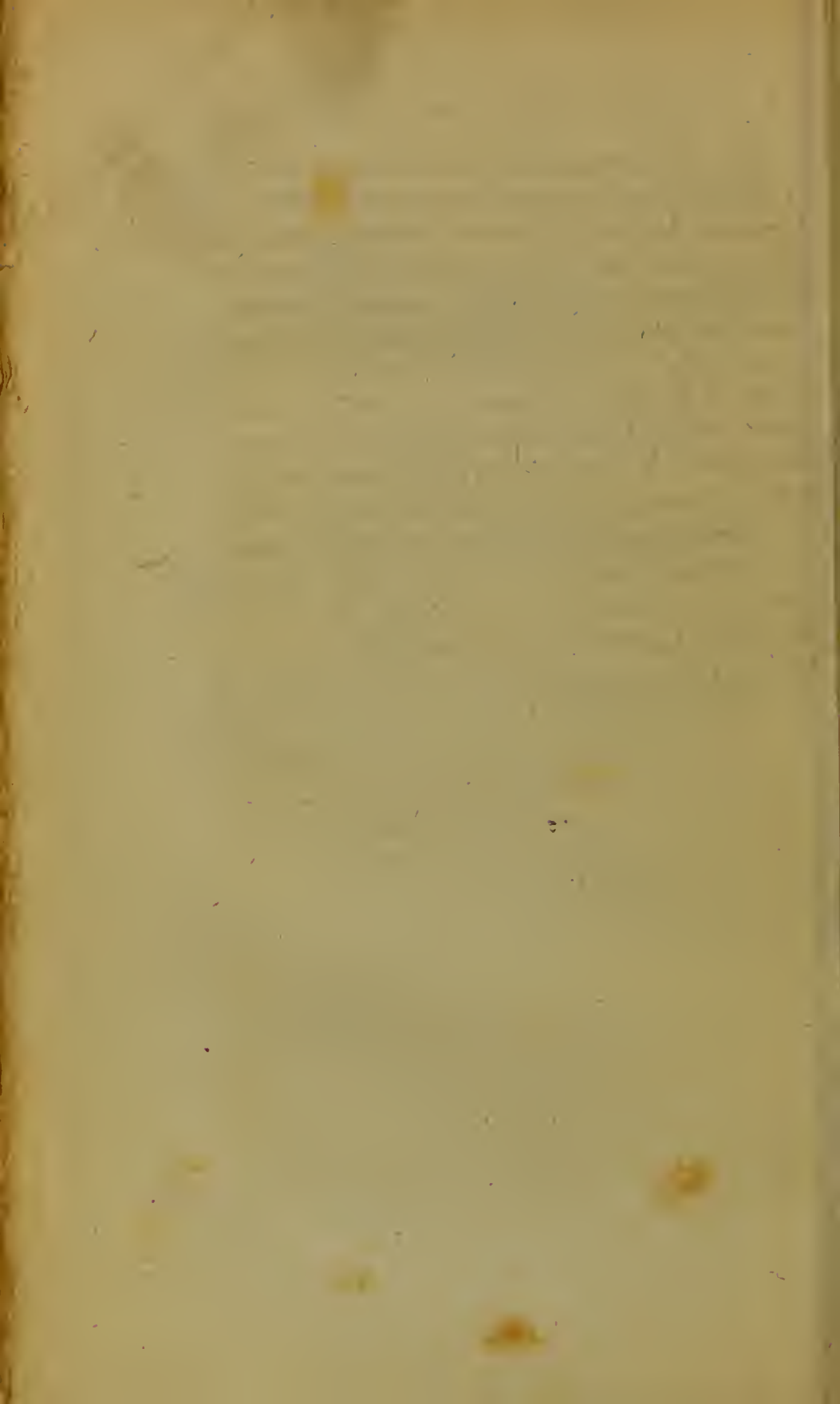
* Twelve were dismissed cured, and one died.

† The name of this parish is not inserted. It is hoped the parishioners will see the danger, not only to the public but to themselves, from the line of conduct adopted by their overseers in this instance.

arrived. The overseers of that parish have refused to discharge the expences of interment ; and have, besides, declared to the Inspector, that neither on the present nor on any future occasion, will they defray the expences of any kind, relative to persons removed from that parish to the House of the Fever Institution.

No. IX. 27th December 1805.—Contagious fever seems to be at present almost extinct in the metropolis. Six patients only have been received into the house, since the first of November ; and all of these have appeared to derive the disease from no previous contagious source, nor have any of them contributed to extend it to others. They have not afforded occasion for any particular remarks.

27th December, 1805.



No. XIV.

Account of some cases of Typhus in the House of Recovery at Dublin, extracted from the Reports of that Institution.

THE system of the hospital has in view to select the particular disease, which it is the object of the charity to prevent ; and to free the patient from contagion, and expedite his recovery. Accordingly three physicians visit the hospital each day between ten and eleven o'clock. To facilitate the patient's admission, no recommendation is required, but any application is attended to, if made before ten o'clock in the morning, when a physician from the hospital visits at their dwelling the sick thus applying, selects from them those who labour under fever, and gives a ticket of admission. When this is received at the hospital, a covered carriage placed on springs, applied to this use only, so constructed as that the patient can lie at ease in an horizontal posture, and furnished with a bed, is sent, in which the patient is slowly and cautiously conveyed to the house. He is stripped in a reception room appropriated to this use, and his wearing apparel put into cold water, preparatory to its undergoing a complete cleansing. The patient's face, hands and feet, are washed with warm water ; he is provided with clean linen and conveyed to bed ; he is visited each day by a physician, who keeps a journal of the case, marks in a table the diet to be used, and gives direc-

tions as to his medical treatment, which are speedily carried into effect : when the patient is able to sit up, he is provided with a white wrapper, stockings, and slippers, which he wears until he is fit for removal ; when this is the case, he is furnished with the dress appropriated to convalescents, and passes to the convalescent building. — When fit to be dismissed, the wearing apparel brought by him into the house, is returned, after having undergone purification and exposure to the air. Such are the means by which contagion is suppressed in the person of the sick ; to the beneficial consequences of which, may be added, the effect produced on the mind of the patient, by having a system of cleanliness pursued in his person for a considerable time ; and by shewing the possibility of the practice of cleanliness, as well as the comforts it produces.

With respect to the second part of the system of the House of Recovery, viz. the application of the means for destroying contagion within the sick person's habitation, a printed ticket of advice is given to the patient's friends, in which various particulars conducive to the destruction of contagion are recommended. — Whitewashing the dwellings of the poor has been put in practice by the Sick Poor Institution in Meath Street, and is still performed by the same charity in the dwellings of patients sent to the House of Recovery. The efficacy of whitewashing in such cases, has been long established ; lime is known to occasion the decomposition of animal matters, and thus perhaps

operates, in destroying the matter of contagion, which is probably of an animal nature. In the directions issued from the Manchester House of Recovery, it is said, the lime should be slaked, where it is to be used, and that the whitewashing should be practised whilst the mixture is bubbling and hot. These circumstances are important, as lime is more active when fresh, or before it has been exposed to the air, and as the vapours that rise from fresh slacked lime hold the latter substance in a state of minute division, therefore are likely to come in contact with, and destroy any contagious effluvia that may float in the atmosphere. The removal of the infected patient from the midst of his family, and the cleansing of his dwelling, though to be ranked among the means which tend to cut off the very source of the evil, are of themselves insufficient for the attainment of this great object, without attention to the removal of those causes that either generate contagion, or dispose the body for its reception.—The cleansing of back yards, the removal of different nuisances, the affording those who have been near the sick, the means of having their clothes purified, and the more minute purification of the furniture of infected houses, are objects which have not escaped the vigilant attention of the Committee, and will no doubt be met with the zeal and activity their importance merits.

It must be a pleasing reflection to those engaged in this work of mercy, that even the remote effects of their exertions will tend to the attainment of the

objects of this charity : the prevention of poverty by obviating sickness, the improvement of the constitutions of the poor by removing nuisances, the introduction of cleanliness by facilitating the means for obtaining it, will all be the consequence of such benevolent endeavours, and will all tend to eradicate contagion.

From the short time elapsed since the preceding system has begun to operate, the fullest proofs of its beneficial effects can be hardly expected ; yet of the latter we may form a satisfactory estimate from the detail of particular instances afforded partly by the registry kept at the Hospital, but principally by inquiry made at the dwellings of those relieved. The family of Michael Donohoe, who lived at No. 12, Weaver's-square, were visited by fever, the mother and children were first attacked, and lastly the father ; five individuals of this family were sent to the House of Recovery, and their dwelling white-washed and ventilated on the 5th of September ; since which time there has been no sickness in his family. This inquiry was made two months after the father had been admitted.

Five persons were attacked with a fever in the room of Mary Osborne, at No. 127, New-Street ; three of these individuals were sent to the House of Recovery ; the room was white-washed, the windows thrown open, the bed clothes and wearing apparel of the tenants washed. On inquiry at the dwelling two months after, the family was completely free from sickness.

In a room about fourteen feet square, situated in an entry adjacent to No. 34, Plunket Street, eight persons slept; a fever broke out among them; six individuals were attacked. They applied to the House of Recovery for relief, and were removed into the hospital, the room being ventilated, and fumigation and white-washing employed. The bed clothes and wearing apparel also were carefully washed and aired. This was done about the 25th of August. On visiting the dwelling on the 11th of November following, the family still continued to occupy it, and no sickness had appeared since the preventive means had been employed. It conveyed a pleasing sensation to observe, that the practice of cleanliness, seemed to have been introduced into this poor family; the staircase and the floor were much cleaner than is usual, the clothing and persons of the occupiers were in a like manner improved.

In a miserable dwelling situated at the remote extremity of an entry adjoining to No. 8, Patrick's Close, a fever had constantly prevailed for many months. Inquiry was made at this house, and it appeared that nine persons had been attacked with this distemper, three of whom had died. The circumstances of this abode of wretchedness must have contributed in a peculiar manner to render it the seat of contagion; the entry being extremely narrow, the dwelling remote from the street, and the dirt and offals of the numerous inhabitants collected on one side of the door in a dunghill, that

exhaled all its effluvia to the windows placed over it. Several of the tenants were admitted into the House of Recovery, and after the admission of James Dunn, the house was thoroughly scoured, washed, and fumigated with muriatic acid vapours. The bed clothes of some of the tenants were also washed: after this the fever ceased; the house was free from sickness when visited three months after cleansing.

Frequent admissions to the House of Recovery had taken place from No. 6, Still's Court, a lodging-house at the upper extremity of a narrow blind lane on the Coombe. The result of inquiry shewed that five persons had been attacked with fever there, previous to the admission of Michael Byrne, on the 2d July. The distemper was principally confined to one garret-room.—This case was represented to the managing committee, and it was suggested, that more than usually active means should be employed to destroy the contagion, by white-washing, scouring the floors and furniture, and by fumigations with muriatic acid vapours, which were put in practice in a complete manner after the removal of the sick, and with the happiest effects. On visiting every room in the dwelling on the 12th November following, there was no sick person to be seen there, nor has there been any since.—To superficial observation it might have appeared, that fever had prevailed there afterwards, as Nancy Harding had been admitted into the fever hospital a few days before this visit; but inquiry

shewed that her illness began in another house, where she acted as a servant, in a wet kitchen, and that she had come to this lodging on being taken ill. At No. 5, Island Street, a fever broke out, beginning with the father of the family William Lyon, from whom it spread to his wife and four children. They were all admitted into the hospital on the same day, July 22; the cellar in which they dwelt was white-washed and cleansed; on returning to their home, another of the family sickened and was received into the House of Recovery. Their abode was then fumigated with muriatic acid vapours, after which the sickness ceased, nor has it since appeared, though near four months have elapsed.

10th April, 1856.

No. XV.

*The following is extracted from the late address of the
BENEFICENT SOCIETY AT EDINBURGH, to
the Inhabitants of that place.*

WITH respect to the possibility of our finding and continuing to find persons able and willing to distribute such provision to the poor, we trust, before this meet the public eye, we shall be able to appeal to something more than presumptions, or speculative reasoning on the subject. We acknowledge that good understanding, considerable experience, as well as compassion and a bountiful heart, are necessary qualifications in those, who may be requested to become the visitors of the poor, and the immediate trustees of the public benevolence. We acknowledge also, that it is in itself a mortifying employment to enter the abodes of many of the poor. A man must not be fastidious who exposes himself to stench and filth, and perhaps to vermin, who encounters rude manners without impatience or disgust, and detects imposition and deceit inflexibly, yet without being provoked. But such men we trust there are. Such men we trust this very measure will bring forward, with whom the public have not hitherto been acquainted. If so many thousands, in the same districts, have stood forth to protect us against the menaces of foreign hostility, at considerable expence and trouble, and

the probability of eventual personal danger, shall we presume that a necessary number, unfit, it may be, for military service by constitution, disposition, or years, are not to be found, willing and qualified to serve in the cause of humanity, and to perform the duties of compassion with self-denial, diligence, integrity, and zeal? In the commerce of the world, the exterior at least of these virtues is necessary for men who would thrive in business or in their professions, or who would live in peace. Rudeness, pride, neglect, and sometimes impositions, must be endured for the sake of our own interest, or of our own quiet. What then is required for the successful execution of this plan, but to do for others what we daily do for ourselves? It is to be hoped that no more needs to be said on this, and so much is said, chiefly to stimulate those who have accepted the employment, and to rouse others to follow their example. We are disposed to think, that those who object to the extent and practicability of the plan proposed, have in view, not a voluntary attempt to alleviate the hardships of poverty, on which the poor have no claim by human laws, but their support by the legal assessment of the public. Indefinite charity from funds levied by tax, cannot fail to be pernicious in the highest degree. It necessarily increases the number of the poor, as well as their distresses; and while spreading idleness and immorality around, must subject the public to the most grievous exactions. But no such consequences can be dreaded from a fund to which

the poor can plead no title, subjected to the regulations already enacted, and which will fail whenever the attention of the society is relaxed in enforcing them.

Several persons allege, that such plans invite the idle and profligate to this city; but those who attend to the regulations, will observe, this is expressly guarded against. At any rate, if this objection is good for any thing, it proves too much; for it would prove, that no relief should be provided for the destitute poor, greater in any one place than in any other; a proposition which, we trust, it will not be required of us to refute.

Many very excellent institutions exist in this city, upon a very different principle. The Royal Infirmary opens its doors to every creature on the face of the earth, and to diseases which the greater number of hospitals in England reject. The Orphans' Hospital receives orphans or destitute children of any description. The Dispensary, though it require the recommendation of a minister or elder of any congregation to which patients belong, admits all to its benefits from whatever quarter they come. Several charities are distributed in Edinburgh, without any limitation in their objects; they are provided and distributed here, it is conceived, upon the very supposition that such are most necessary in populous towns, where the poor are less carefully visited, less known, and not so well supplied as in the country. Shall we pronounce all such establishments, bounties, and benefactions,

injurious to this city, and the indirect means of promoting idleness, vagrancy, and vice?

Let any one peruse the four volumes of the Reports of the Society for bettering the Condition and increasing the comforts of the Poor, in London; let them look at the list of Subscribers, and at the names of their President and acting Committee; and let them give the due weight which the sentiments and practices of such eminent persons deserve in the scale of argument. It is plain they have no faith in the opinion, that pernicious consequences arise from multiplying means in great towns for relief of the poor. Indeed, if the benefits which we expect from this Society be realized, we shall not wonder at seeing many such institutions speedily established in many other populous places of this country. Since the establishment of the Infirmary, infirmaries have been erected at Aberdeen, Glasgow, Inverness, Dundee, and Dumfries. Since the public Dispensary was instituted by Dr. Duncan, in 1776, similar plans have been executed in many places of this country. Societies for the relief of the destitute sick subsist at Leith, Musselburgh, Haddington, Stirling, Aberdeen, &c.; and female Societies, originally framed after an example in London, have been established in Leith, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Montrose, Dundee, &c. We apprehend then, that, in erecting this Society, we present an example, which, if such institutions attract the poor to the places of their establishment, will have the influence of creating similar attractions elsewhere,

and of preventing the poor, in consequence of these, from crowding in one direction.

Further, some have dreaded lest this measure prove injurious to other societies for benevolent purposes, by withdrawing the voluntary contributions, attentions, and services, by which they are supported, and upon which their usefulness depends.

We have only to remark in reply to this, that we have already expressed our full persuasion of the necessity and utility of charity workhouses, and of other societies, of later date, established in this city; and if we conceived, that the measure we recommend could tend to their injury, we should never have adopted, and would now abandon it. Of this indeed we are persuaded, that fewer demands may be made upon them, in case this Society should attain the extent and degree of influence to which we judge it entitled. The miseries of the poor, anticipated in the beginning, would not so soon advance to such a stage, nor be so soon incurably confirmed, as to disable them from assisting altogether towards their own maintenance. Those, therefore, who applied to be admitted into the poor's houses, would be principally the aged and the totally helpless. A rivalry which may diminish the number of those who need to be supported by other charitable establishments, is not that surely of which their managers ought to be jealous. In this view the Orphans' Hospital is the rival of the Poor's House, the Dispensary of the Infirmary,

and the Society for relief of the destitute sick of both.

The more such societies multiply, within proper bounds, the more easily are funds for them obtained, and the burden of the public is lightened by resting on a broader base. The members of each society have all of them connections and friends to whom, by their means, information is conveyed of their several merits and peculiar utility, and the humanity and benevolence of such persons are excited, which might otherwise remain dormant and inactive. Nay, even the hard hearted and the thoughtless are prevailed on to aid the designs of the beneficent. They are taxed with their own consent, and the drones becomes serviceable to the labourers of the hive. It is not to be supposed, that such societies will multiply too much for the public to support. Have they increased hitherto with the increase of wealth, or in proportion to the diminution of the value of money? Have they borne, or are they likely to bear any proportion to the various means and contrivances for personal indulgence, or to the increase of places of public pleasure and amusement?

No. XVI.

The following Resolutions of a numerous Meeting of the Physicians and Medical Gentlemen of Liverpool, convened on the important subject of VACCINE INOCULATION, upon the 29th of April 1806, are submitted to the Reader's consideration.

WE the undersigned, being impressed with a strong conviction, that the advantages of Vaccine Inoculation are, in many important circumstances, greatly superior to those of Inoculation for the Small Pox, and being desirous of extending and diffusing these advantages as widely as possible in this town and neighbourhood, where Vaccination has hitherto been practised to a less extent in proportion to the population, than in many other parts of this Kingdom, and even of this county, have agreed to the following resolutions, as declaratory of our sentiments on this most interesting subject, viz.

I. That, in our opinion, Inoculation for the Cow-pock, affords to the human constitution a protection against the contagion of the Small-pox, as complete and effectual, as can possibly be derived from inoculation for the Small-pox.

II. That, in our opinion, inoculation for the Cow-pock, is greatly preferable to inoculation for the Small-pox, for the following reasons:

1st, Because the disease produced by Vaccination,

not only is never fatal, but is never even attended with danger; whilst on the contrary, it is well known, that, of such as have been inoculated for the Small-pox, some have occasionally died, notwithstanding every precaution; and it is equally notorious, that in those who have passed through the inoculated Small-pox, the disease has been sometimes dangerous and severe, and its effects on the constitution, have been often permanently injurious, by exciting other diseases into action.

2dly, Because the Vaccine disease is not infectious, as the Small-pox always is, whether it be received naturally, or by inoculation.

3dly, Because it may be communicated with perfect safety, under circumstances which render the Small-pox Inoculation peculiarly formidable; as in the state of pregnancy, and during infancy, and the period of dentition.

And lastly, Because it has never been followed, in any instance that has yet come to our knowledge, by any effects of a serious nature. Cutaneous eruptions have occurred in a few instances after Vaccination, here as well as elsewhere; but it has by no means been proved, that such eruptions are fairly to be ascribed to Vaccination as their cause. And in this opinion we are confirmed by the public testimony of the ablest and most respectable practitioners in the metropolis, who have paid close attention to this subject, and who have declared, that, "many well known cutaneous diseases, and some scrofulous complaints, have been represented

as the effects of Vaccine Inoculation, when in fact, they have originated from other causes; and in many instances have occurred long after Vaccination; and that such diseases are infinitely less frequent after Vaccination, than after either the natural or inoculated Small-pox."

III. That influenced by these powerful considerations, we feel it to be our incumbent duty to discourage the practice of inoculation for the Small-pox; being firmly convinced that it does not present to us one single advantage which cannot be obtained, with equal certainty and without any danger, by Vaccine Inoculation; and that it prolongs the existence and extends the ravages, of a most destructive disease, which Vaccine Inoculation promises ultimately to exterminate.

As an additional reason for this resolution, we think it necessary to state, that it appears from authentic documents and from calculations founded upon them, which were produced in evidence by respectable professional gentlemen, when they were examined on this subject by a Committee of the House of Commons, in the year 1802, that the mortality of the Small-pox has been increased since the introduction of inoculation; and this mortality has prevailed to such an extent, that not less than 34,000 individuals have annually perished by that disease alone, in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

For these reasons we give a decided preference to Vaccine Inoculation; and we are determined to

use all our influence to promote the practice of it in this town and neighbourhood as extensively as possible, among all ranks and classes of society.

<i>John Ball.</i>	<i>John Hicks.</i>
<i>Edward Barnes.</i>	<i>L. J. Jardine, M. D.</i>
<i>Francis Baron.</i>	<i>Thos. Jeffreys, M. D.</i>
<i>Oliver Barron, M. D.</i>	<i>Rob. Lewin, M. D.</i>
<i>W. Barrow, M. D.</i>	<i>Jas. C. Lynch, M. D.</i>
<i>S. Beetenson, M. D.</i>	<i>Peter Lindsay.</i>
<i>John Bostock, M. D.</i>	<i>John Lyon, M. D.</i>
<i>Joseph Brandreth, M. D.</i>	<i>J. M^cCartney, M. D.</i>
<i>Jos. P. Brandreth, M. D.</i>	<i>George Mather.</i>
<i>Jos. Brandreth.</i>	<i>John M^cCulloch.</i>
<i>W. Briggs, M. D.</i>	<i>Patrick M^cDermot.</i>
<i>S. Bromley.</i>	<i>J. M^cGowan.</i>
<i>Rob. Buddicom.</i>	<i>Henry Park.</i>
<i>Rob. Buchanan, M. D.</i>	<i>W. Perry.</i>
<i>Christ. Buck.</i>	<i>J. W. Pursell, M. D.</i>
<i>Jas. Carson, M. D.</i>	<i>W. Lucas Reay.</i>
<i>Thomas Christian.</i>	<i>Thos. Benwick, M. D.</i>
<i>Law. Cotham.</i>	<i>John Rutter, M. D.</i>
<i>J. P. Dale.</i>	<i>John Shaw.</i>
<i>Jas. Dawson.</i>	<i>C. Shuttleworth.</i>
<i>Rob. Fleetwood.</i>	<i>Rob. Simon.</i>
<i>Rich. Forshaw.</i>	<i>O. Thomas.</i>
<i>Jas. Gerard, M. D.</i>	<i>M. Timons.</i>
<i>W. Gresly.</i>	<i>T. Stewart Trail, M. D.</i>
<i>Thos. Fairfax Hay.</i>	<i>Jos. Vigneaux.</i>
<i>H. B. Hensman.</i>	<i>C. Worthington.</i>
<i>Thos. Houghton.</i>	

29th April, 1806.

No. XVII.

he following was written by an eminent and respectable Divine of the established Church. The Society has ordered Ten Thousand Copies of it to be printed, and to be delivered gratis by Mr. Hatchard, to any of the Members of the Society.

THINGS WORTHY TO BE CONSIDERED AND
REMEMBERED BY ALL PERSONS WHO DOUBT
ABOUT GOING TO THE HOLY SACRAMENT.

I. **R**EMEMBER, that the HOLY SACRAMENT is celebrated in consequence of the POSITIVE COMMAND of our Lord and Saviour JESUS CHRIST, who more than once said, DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.

II. **R**EMEMBER, that every appointment of our merciful Saviour, must be MERCIFUL. CHRIST, who so truly loved all mankind, could not design to appoint a snare for his frail servants. GO THEN TO HIS TABLE WITHOUT FEAR.

III. **R**EMEMBER, that if you really are so very wicked, as to be UNFIT TO RECEIVE THE SACRAMENT, you are yet much more unfit to DIE. And though the one may be put off, the other cannot. Perhaps even to-day, like the rich man in the parable, you may hear those awful words, THIS NIGHT SHALL THY SOUL BE REQUIRED OF THEE!

IV. REMEMBER, that if you die thus unprepared, you will die self-condemned — Knowing yourself to be unfit to approach the table of Christ's mercy upon earth, how shall you be able to stand before the throne of his judgment in HEAVEN? PREPARE THEN FOR THE SACRAMENT, AND THE SAME PREPARATION WILL FIT YOU FOR THE DAY OF JUDGMENT.

V. REMEMBER, that every person who truly resolves, and sincerely endeavours, to amend his life, does thereby, in the best manner, prepare himself for the Sacrament. God forgives imperfection *when it is not wilful*. Even in the service for the HOLY COMMUNION, we are taught to confess our unworthiness, saying, “ *We do not presume to come to this thy table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies.* ”

VI. REMEMBER, that wilfully to delay this preparation, even for a day, is TO TRIFLE WITH YOUR SALVATION.

VII. REMEMBER, that those persons eat and drink the LORD'S SUPPER *unworthily*, who do it with an evil mind; NOT THEY WHO GO TO IT WITH GOOD INTENTIONS.

No. XVIII.

Extract from the Madrid Gazette of the 14th of October 1806, giving an Account of the Measures taken by the Spanish Government, to extend the benefits of Vaccination to their foreign dominions, and to other countries.

DR. FRANCIS XAVIER BALMIS had the honour of kissing his Majesty's hand, on his return from a voyage round the world, with the object of carrying to all the possessions of the Crown of Spain, situated beyond the seas, and to those of several other nations, the inestimable gift of Vaccine Inoculation. His Majesty inquired, with the liveliest interest, into all that materially related to the expedition; and learned, with the utmost satisfaction, that its result has exceeded the most sanguine expectations, that were entertained at the time of the enterprize.

This undertaking had been committed to the diligence of several Members of the Faculty, and subordinate persons, carrying with them twenty-two children, who had never undergone the Small-pox, selected for the preservation of the precious fluid, by transmitting it successively from one to another, during the course of the voyage. The expedition set sail from Corunna, under the direction of Dr. Balmis, on the 30th November, 1803. It made the first stop at the Canary Islands, the

second at Porto Rico, and the third at the Caracas. On leaving that province, by the port of La Guayra, it was divided: one part sailing to South America, under the charge of the Subdirector Don Francis Salvani; the other, with the Director, Dr. Balmis, on board, steering for the Havannah, and thence for Yucatan. There a subdivision took place: the Professor Francis Pastor proceeding from the port of Sisal, to that of Villa Hermosa, in the province of Tobasca, for the purpose of propagating Vaccination in the district of Chiapa, and on to Guatemala, making a circuit of four hundred leagues, through a long and rough road, comprising Oaxaca; while the rest of the expedition, which arrived without accident at Veracruz, traversed not only the Vice-royalty of New Spain, but also the interior provinces; whence it was to return to Mexico, which was the point of re-union.

This precious preservative against the ravages of the Small-pox, has already been extended through the whole of North America, to the coasts of Sonora and Sinaloa, and even to High Pimeria. In each capital a Council has been instituted, composed of the principal Authorities, and the most zealous members of the faculty, charged with the preservation of this invaluable specific, as a sacred deposit, for which they are accountable to the King and to posterity.

This being accomplished, it was the next care of the Director to carry this part of the expedition from America to Asia, crowned with the most

brilliant success, and with it, the comfort of humanity. Some difficulties having been surmounted, he embarked in the port of Acapulco for the Philippine Islands ; that being the point at which, if attainable, it was originally intended that the undertaking should be terminated.

The bounty of Divine Providence having vouchsafed to second the great and pious designs of the King, Dr. Balmis happily performed the voyage in little more than two months : carrying with him, from New Spain, twenty-six children, destined to be vaccinated in succession, as before ; and as many of them were infants, they were committed to the care of the Matron of the Foundling Hospital at La Corunna, who in this, as well as the former voyages, conducted herself in a manner to merit approbation. The expedition having arrived at the Philippines, and propagated the specific in the islands subject to his Catholic Majesty, Dr. Balmis, having concluded his philanthropic commission, concerted with the Captain General the means of extending the beneficence of the King, and the glory of his august name, to the remotest confines of Asia.

In point of fact, the Cow-pox has been disseminated through the vast Archipelago of the Visayan Islands ; whose Chiefs, accustomed to wage perpetual war with us, have laid down their arms, admiring the generosity of an enemy, who conferred upon them the blessings of health and life, at the time when they were labouring under the

ravages of an epidemic Small-pox. The principal persons of the Portuguese colonies, and of the Chinese empire, manifested themselves no less beholden, when Dr. Balmis reached Macao and Canton: in both which places he accomplished the introduction of fresh virus, in all its activity, by the means already related: a result, which the English, on repeated trials, had failed to procure, in the various occasions when they brought out portions of matter in the ships of their East India Company, which lost their efficacy on their passage.

After having propagated the Vaccine at Canton, as far as the circumstances of the empire would permit, and having confided the further dissemination of it to the Physicians of the English factory at the above-mentioned port, Dr. Balmis returned to Macao, and embarked in a Portuguese vessel for Lisbon: where he arrived on the 15th August. In the way he stopped at St. Helena, in which, as in other places, by dint of exhortation and perseverance, he prevailed upon the English to adopt the astonishing antidote, which they had undervalued for the space of more than eight years, though it was a discovery of their own nation, and though it was sent to them by JENNER himself.

Of that branch of the expedition which was destined for Peru, it is ascertained that it was shipwrecked in one of the mouths of the River de la Magdalena; but having derived immediate succour from the natives, from the magistrates adjacent,

and from the Governor of Carthagena, the Subdirector, the three members of the faculty who accompanied him, and the children, were saved, with the fluid in good preservation, which they extended in that port, and its province, with activity and success. Thence it was carried to the isthmus of Panama, and persons, properly provided with all necessaries, undertook the long and painful navigation of the River de la Magdalena; separating, when they reached the interior, to discharge their commission in the towns of Teneriffe, Mompox, Ocana, Socorro, San Gil y Medellin, in the valley of Cucuta, and in the cities of Pamplona, Giron, Tunja, Velez, and other places in the neighbourhood, until they met at Santa Fe: leaving every where suitable instructions for the members of the faculty, and, in the more considerable towns, regulations conformable to those rules which the Director had prescribed for the preservation of the virus: which the Viceroy certifies to have been communicated to *fifty thousand* persons, without one unfavourable case. Towards the close of March, 1805, they prepared to continue their journey in separate tracks, for the purpose of extending themselves with greater facility and promptitude, over the remaining districts of the Viceroyalty, situated in the road of Popayan, Cuença, and Quito, as far as Lima. In the August following they reached Guayaquil.

The result of this expedition has been not merely to spread the Vaccine among all people, whether

friends or enemies; among Moors; among Visayans, and among Chinese; but also to secure to posterity, in the dominions of his Majesty, the perpetuity of so great a benefit, partly by means of the central committees that have been established, as well as by the discovery which Dr. Balmis made of an indigenous matter in the cows of the valley of Atlixco, near the city of Puebla de los Angeles; in the neighbourhood of that of Valladolid de Mechoacan, where the Adjutant Antonio Gutierrez found it; and in the district of Calabozo, in the province of Caracas, where Don Carlos de Pozo, Physician of the residence, found it.

A multitude of observations, which will be published without delay, respecting the development of the Vaccine in various climes, and respecting its efficacy, not merely in preventing the natural Small-pox, but in curing simultaneously other morbid affections of the human frame, will manifest how important to humanity will prove the consequences of an expedition, which has no parallel in history.

No. XIX.

SCOTCH LAWS RELATING TO EDUCATION.

AT a time when the public attention is directed to the education of the poor, it will be useful to ascertain what have been the measures, which have so effectually given to Scotland those advantages of moral and religious discipline, from which many of the other parts of the Island continue to be excluded. In a former volume we inserted a copy of the short and effectual law, which secured the benefits of education to all the inhabitants of Massachusetts Bay. We now add copies of those Scotch laws, which in a very few years, brought many thousands of dissolute and noxious poor into a state of civil order, and made Scotland one of the examples of the inestimable benefits which a system of national instruction for the poor, confers on morality and good government. These Acts will show how simple and unembarrassed the measures might be, that would give the English poor and the community these important advantages. The inducing the effectual co-operation of the endowments and establishments for the instruction of the poor already existing in this country, seems to be almost the only object, which requires previous inquiry and investigation.

Act of Privy Council, 10th Dec. 1616.

FORASMUCH as the KING'S MAJESTY having a special care and regard that the true religion be advanced and established in all the parts of this

kingdom, and that all his Majesty's subjects, especially the youth, be exercised and trained up in civility, godliness, knowlege, and learning; that the vulgar English tongue be universally planted, and the Irish language, which is one of the chief, and principal causes of the continuance of barbarity and incivility amongst the inhabitants of the Isles and Highlands, may be abolished and removed. And whereas there is no means more powerful to further this his Majesty's princely regard and purpose, than the establishing of schools in the particular parishes of his kingdom, where the youth may be taught at the least to write and to read,* and be catechised and instructed in the grounds of religion: therefore the King's Majesty, with advice of the lords of his secret council, has thought it necessary and expedient, in every parish of this kingdom where convenient means may be had for entertaining a school, that a school shall be established, and a fit person appointed to teach the same, upon the expense of the parishioners, according to the quantity and quality of the parish, at the sight and by the advice of the Bishop of the diocese in his visitation: commanding hereby all the bishops within this kingdom, that they and every one of them, within their several dioceses, deal and travel with the parishioners of their particular parishes

* There is a Scotch act of 1494, for promoting the education of the higer classes, and another of 1579, for instruction of youth in the art of musick. These I omit as not applying to the subject of the education of the poor.

within their said dioceses; to condescend and agree upon some certain, solid, and sure course, how, and by what means the said schools may be entertained: and if any difficulty shall arise amongst them concerning this matter, that the said bishop report the same to the said lords, to the effect they may take such order thereabout as they shall think expedient: and that letters be directed to make publication hereof, that none pretend ignorance of the same.

Act of Parliament 1633, C. 5.

OUR SOVEREIGN LORD, with the advice of the states, ratifies the act of secret council dated at Edinburgh the tenth day of December one thousand six hundred and sixteen years, as to the planting of schools; with this addition, that the bishops in their several visitations, shall have power, with consent of the renters and most part of the parishioners, and if the renters, being lawfully warned, refuse to appear, then with consent of the most part of the parishioners, to set down and stent upon every plough or husband land, according to the worth, for maintenance and establishing of the said schools. And if any person shall find himself grieved, it shall be lawful to him to have recourse to the lords, of secret council, for redress of any prejudice he may or doth sustain. And he doth ordain letters to be directed for charging of the possessioners, to answer and obey the schoolmasters, of the duties that shall be appointed in manner aforesaid.

Act of Parliament, 1696, C. 26.

OUR SOVEREIGN LORD, considering how prejudicial the want of schools in many places* have been, and how beneficial the establishing thereof in every parish will be to this church and kingdom; therefore his Majesty, with advice and consent of the estates† of Parliament, statutes and ordains,

* The statute of 1696 (says Dr. CURRIE), the noble legacy of the Scottish Parliament to their country, began soon to operate; and happily, *as the minds of the poor received instruction*, the Union opened new channels of industry, and new fields of action to their view. In the year 1698, (I state this on the high and unquestioned authority of Mr. Fletcher of Saltoun) "there were in Scotland 200,000 people begging from door to door:—and at other times there had not been less than 100,000 of these vagabonds, who lived without any regard or subjection either to the laws of the land, or even to those of God and nature;— frequently guilty of robbery, and sometimes of murder; — both men and women, perpetually drunk, cursing, blaspheming, and fighting together:" such however, in the course of a few passing years, was the effect of this Scotch Act for Education, that at the present day (as Dr. Currie observes) "there is no country in Europe, in which, in proportion to its population, so small a number of crimes fall under the chastisement of the criminal law of Scotland." — In the Protestant cantons of Switzerland, and in New England, the peasantry have the same advantage of schools. This is also the case in certain districts of England, particularly in the northern parts of Yorkshire and of Lancashire, and in the counties of Westmorland and Cumberland. The peasantry of Westmorland (to continue a series of quotations from Dr. Currie), and of the other districts mentioned before, if their physical and moral qualities be taken together, are superior to the peasantry in any other part of the Island.

† Dr. Currie observes, that the same legislature which established a system of instruction for the poor, resisted the introduction of a legal provision for the support of poverty: and imputes to this circumstance, that the Scotch have a more than usual share of prudence and reflection.

that there be a school settled and established, and a schoolmaster appointed in every parish, not already provided by advice of the heretors and ministers of the parish : and for that effect, that the heretors in every parish meet and provide a commodious house for a school, and settle and modify a salary to a schoolmaster, which shall not be under an hundred merks, nor above two hundred merks,* to be paid yearly at two terms, *Whitsunday* and *Martinmas*, by equal portions ; and that they stent and lay on the said salary conformably to every renter's valued rent within the parish ; allowing each renter relief from his tenants of the half of his proportion, for settling and maintaining of a school, and payment of the schoolmaster's salary ; which salary is declared to be by and attorn the casualties, which formerly belonged to the readers and clerks of the

* The lesser of these sums is *5*l.* 11*s.* 1½*d.**, the greater *11*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.** By the 43d of George III. these salaries are not to be less than *16*l.* 13*s.* 4½*d.** nor more than *22*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.** With the increase, however, it is still to be continued as an annual fee to engage their services, than as a compensation for the performance of them. While the salary establishes the school, the pay received from the scholars, tho very small as to each individual, make up the amount of the master's income. By these means it becomes, not merely a consideration of interest, but in some degree a matter of necessity, for Scotch schoolmasters to attract scholars to the school ; and I have been informed that the effects of this, in promoting and increasing the utility of the Scotch parochial schools have been very important. Tho the scholar's payment is only from six to twelve shillings a year, yet to a person who already has a school-house and salary, the addition of scholars makes a material addition to his income ; while at the same time he finds that his school will never be beneficial to him unless it is made useful to the public.

kirk session. And if the heretors or major part of them shall not convene, or being convened shall not-agree among themselves, then, and in that case, the Presbytery shall apply to the Commissioners of the supply for the shire, who, or any five of them, shall have power to establish a school, and settle and modify a salary for a schoolmaster, not being under one hundred merks, nor above two hundred merks yearly, as afore; and to stent and lay on the same upon the heretors conformably to their valued rent, which shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been done by the heretors themselves. And because the proportion imposed upon every heretor will be but small, therefore, for the better and more ready payment thereof, it is statuated and ordained, that if two terms proportions run in the third unpaid, then those that so fail in payment, shall be liable in the double of their proportions then resting, and in the double of every terms proportion that shall be resting thereafter, until the schoolmaster be completely paid; and that without any defalcation. And that letters of horning, and all other executorials necessary be directed at the instance of the schoolmaster, for payment of the said stipend, and double of the proportions in manner aforesaid; and discharges all suspensions to pass against schoolmasters of the salaries, except upon consignation or a valid discharge: and if any suspension be past, that the lords discuss the same summarily, without abiding the course of the roll. And it is hereby declared, that life renters, during

the lifetime, shall be liable in payment of the proportions imposed on the lands life rented; and execution, in manner foresaid, shall pass against them for that effect; and the heretors shall be always free of the same during the life renter's lifetime. And if any person find themselves wronged by the inequality of the proportions imposed, it shall be lawful for them to seek redress thereof before the commissioners of supply, sheriff of the shire, or other judge competent, within the space of a year and day after the imposing of the stent, and no otherwise. And also it is declared, that the providing of the said schools and schoolmasters is a pious* use within the parish, to which it shall be

* There was a circumstance in the religious establishment both of Scotland and New England, extremely favourable to these schools, — the co-operation of the parochial clergy. The period preparatory to holy orders, was very generally filled up by the exercise of the duties of the parish school-master. This has many advantages. — It prepares the Clergy for those parochial functions, which they are going to sustain. It gives consequence and consideration to these seminaries of instruction, on account of the literary and respectable character of the masters thus acquired: and it affords a provision for the scholar, in the interval between the period of his education and of his admission to the exercise of his religious functions. It is thereby, in many instances, not only contributory to the future usefulness and respectability of the clergyman, but it is convenient to his present pecuniary circumstances. These advantages are still further extended in Scotland, by that which exists only partially in the other parts of the British Empire; the constant residence of the parochial clergy. "The clergyman (says Dr. Currie) being every where resident in his particular parish, becomes the natural patron and superintendant of the parish school; and is enabled in various ways to promote the comfort of the teacher, and the proficiency of the scholars. The teacher himself is often a candidate

lawful leisinne to patrons, to employ the vacant stipends as they shall see cause; excepting from this act the bounds of the synod of *Argyle*: in respect, that by a former act of Parliament in the year one thousand six hundred and ninety, the vacant stipends within the said bounds are destined for the setting up and maintaining of schools in manner therein mentioned: and the said vacant stipends are hereby expressly appointed to be thereto applied, at the sight of the sheriff of the bounds fore-said. And lastly, His Majesty, with the advice and consent aforesaid, ratifies and approves all former laws, customs, and constitutions made for establishing and maintaining of schools within the kingdom, in so far as the same are not altered nor innovate by this present act.

October 2, 1807.

“for holy orders, who, during the long course of study
 “and probation required in the Scottish church, renders
 “the time, which can be spared from his professional
 “studies, useful to others as well as to himself, by assuming the respectable character of schoolmaster.” — Dr. Beattie was educated at one of these parish schools; and on his quitting the Marischall College at Aberdeen, was five years schoolmaster of the little obscure parish of Ferdoun; where he continued his studies, and produced some of his most beautiful poetical compositions.

No. XX.

*Advice to Masters and Apprentices. By the Rev.
Dr. GLASSE.*

AN APPRENTICE is a servant for a limited time ; but differing from other servants in being more closely bound, under a mutual covenant, of maintenance and support, instruction, and care, on the part of the master ; and of sobriety, diligence, and obedience, on the part of the apprentice. All this is well set forth in the indentures, which should not only be distinctly read, when the indentures are executed, but should also be frequently read over, and carefully considered by every master and apprentice.

A well-disposed apprentice generally sets off with fair promises of good conduct, and professes a desire to discharge his duty faithfully, and endeavour to make himself useful to those about him. But experience shews us, that, through the corruption of human nature, and through the evil influence of bad examples, too many young persons are drawn aside from the path, in which for a time, they seemed determined to walk, as good servants ought to do.

The master, it must be acknowledged, is too often careless of what is as much his interest as his duty ; in not taking particular care, that his apprentice be duly attentive to the services of religion

on the LORD's Day : on which day the master is too generally absent from home, leaving the apprentice unprotected and unrestrained.—This may be considered as the foundation of every subsequent irregularity : for where religion does not early engage the mind and affections, the devil, the world, and the flesh, will not fail to take the advantage ; and incline the poor deluded youth, first, to a neglect of his duty towards GOD ; and then, of all his other duties, to his master, his neighbour, and himself. This is the beginning of sorrows, both to the apprentice and the master : the former grows indifferent about giving satisfaction, while the latter has too much cause to be dissatisfied.—As the apprentice advances in the knowledge of the art and mystery of the trade which he is learning, if his mind is not well-disposed, he will soon begin to think, that, if he were not under restraint, he might be now able to *do something for himself* : and this mischievous sentiment he will be sure to hear confirmed by other apprentices, as ill-affected as he is : Forgetful of the care which was taken of them, when they could do little or nothing for themselves : regardless of the obligation under which they lie to their master, who has hitherto performed the duty of a parent towards them, they begin to be sour and murmuring ; discontented with every thing, and every person about them ; reluctant in their obedience ; negligent in their business ; impatient of reproof ; considering their masters in the light of tyrants, set in authority over them, instead of friends, appointed

to watch over them for their good, and to lay the foundation of their future prosperity and happiness ; they now consider every command as an unreasonable imposition, and allege, that this or that, made no part of the original covenant ; tho upon examination, they will find it extends to any reasonable command that a conscientious master may think proper to give.—If once this impatient desire of emancipation and independence is indulged and suffered to prevail, there is no instance of irregularity that the apprentice will not be guilty of, in order that a separation from his master may by any means take place.—But the youth will do well to remember, that, as there are laws to secure the apprentice against ill treatment from his master, there are also laws to punish him for obstinacy, and wilful disobedience, and contempt of the obligations, under which he is laid by his indentures.—The number of apprentices, committed to prison for misconduct, ought to discourage every sensible lad from following their evil practices ; while the far greater number of youths, that have gone through their appointed time of servitude, with honour and advantage to themselves, and satisfaction to their employers, offer great encouragement to such, as wish to be happy, and to endeavour to do their duty diligently, and conscientiously, in that state of life to which it has pleased the providence of God to call them.

The way to prevent the young apprentice's being discontented at his first setting out in the world, is

—not to be too sanguine in his expectation of a life of ease and indulgence. He will do well to prepare himself for difficulties, from which he is not to suppose any of the inferior stations are exempted. Such as are not born to affluence, are born to labour; to support themselves, and such as belong to them, by a virtuous and honest industry. When the apprentice is bound to an employment, from which future benefit is expected to arise, the first necessary step has been taken for his well doing; and the rest is, through the blessing of God, in a great measure dependent on himself. This blessing he must not fail to ask for, constantly, in his prayers; never suffering himself to be laughed out of his religion; nor being ever ashamed to profess himself to be, what he is by name—a Christian. He may, perhaps, be called by some reproachful name; but he is not to regard it;—but by a regular and constant attention to his duty, to be careful not to deserve either censure or ridicule.

To sum up his duty in a few words:—

Let him fear GOD, and honour the KING.

Let him submit to such as are set over him, in all things lawful.

Let him continue constant in his public and private religious duties; and particularly on the Sabbath-Day.

Let him be sober and temperate in all things.

Let him never run with the multitude to do evil; and especially never join in any illegal combination.

Let him avoid bad company of both sexes ; as he would the sting of a deadly serpent.

Let him consider GOD as the perpetual eye-witness of his conduct.

Let him avoid idleness and loitering, which will be sure to betray him into various kinds of mischief.

Lastly, Let him herein be exercised, to have always a conscience void of offence towards GOD and man. Thus will he lay a sure foundation of happiness in this life, and a better ; through the merits of HIM, who hath assured us, that neither the care of the Master, nor the diligence of the Servant, shall lose its reward.

15th January, 1807.

No. XXI.

Prospectus of the Cork Institution for the Application of Science to the Common Purposes of Life.

THE model of this establishment is to be found in the Royal Institution of Great Britain, and in the Dublin Society ; the objects of which are to extend the advantages of science to the promotion of the welfare of the community, and to the increase of the arts, improvements, and comforts of civilized life ; and at the same time to produce a taste for scientific and literary pursuits, in both sexes, and in all the different classes of society.

It is not however the design of this Institution, in the smallest degree, to provide a substitute for that college education, which every professional man, and which every gentleman, should seek in the ancient seats of learning ; nor yet to open it as a school, on an enlarged plan, as had at first been erroneously supposed.

Lectures on chemistry have been already given by the Reverend Thomas D. Hincks, one of the managers and founders of the establishment. These lectures are to be continued ; and an additional course of lectures on agriculture is preparing by another very respectable gentleman.

His Excellency the Duke of Bedford, the Lord Lieutenant, has been graciously pleased to approve

the plan ; and to express his intention that, when the old Custom-House, part of which is still occupied by the excise department and by the collector of the customs, shall be no longer wanted for those purposes in consequence of the erection of a new Custom-House, it shall be given to the Institution, and that rooms shall be allotted in it for the following purposes, viz:

1.—A Lecture room, with one or two rooms near it for the different apparatus ;

2.—A Laboratory for chemical operations :

3.—A Room for a collection of minerals :

4.—A store for the most approved implements of husbandry ;

5.—A small observatory ;

6.—A library for scientific works for the use of the members ;

7.—Two rooms for the use of the Cork library ;

8.—A Room for the use of the farming society or committee of Agriculture ; in which specimens of grain, timber, &c. and useful notices of various kinds may be kept ; and

9.—A Board Room, in which the members of the Society shall hold their various meetings ; and which may be occasionally used for the meetings of committees on business of a public nature.

The objects of the lectures will be Natural Philosophy, Chemistry including Mineralogy, Botany, and Agriculture. A Botanical garden will also be established at a short distance from the city, the objects of which will be chiefly agricul-

tural, and in which all unnecessary expense will be avoided.

Though it will be impossible to accomplish every part of this plan, until the Custom-House is given to the Institution, yet the lectures and some other parts of it, on a smaller scale, will be immediately carried into effect, at the house of the Institution on St. Patrick's Hill.

The management of the institution will remain with the proprietors, who will consist of the original subscribers, and such others as shall hereafter be admitted by ballot. After the completion of the charter, no person can become a proprietor under a sum of thirty guineas, to be paid on admission; but the advantages of the institution may be obtained for life, or during a year, on the payment of sums hereafter to be fixed by the byelaws.

After this short statement of the objects of the institution, and what the members propose to effect, it can hardly be supposed that any will call in question the benefits likely to result from it. These indeed have appeared so evident to the LORD LIEUTENANT and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that they have shewn every disposition to render essential services to the Institution, and to enable the managers to extend their views. Those valuable institutions also, the Dublin Society and the Farming Society of Ireland, are desirous of acting in concert, and of forwarding the views of the Cork Institution, and have expressed a wish that similar societies may be formed in other parts

of Ireland. The interests of agriculture are so generally and justly regarded as of the first importance, that the managers will either adopt whatever measures may appear most calculated for the advancement of it, or will give every accommodation in their power to the Cork farming society, if this be deemed more expedient.

16 Jan. 1807.

No. XXII.

Report of the Visitor and Guardians of the House of Industry, at Winchester.

A VERY material increase having taken place in this Establishment since the publication of the last printed Report, the VISITOR and GUARDIANS think it proper, at this time, to lay before their respective parishioners (particularly for the information of those who have lately united), a short account of the origin, progress, and present state of this Institution.

Towards the close of the year 1795, the inhabitants of three parishes in and near Winchester, at meetings duly held agreeable to Act of the 22d of his present Majesty (commonly called Gilbert's Act), agreed to adopt the rules and regulations therein prescribed for parishes, uniting for the better relief and employment of the poor. A Visitor and 23 Guardians were, in consequence, appointed, who founded the present Establishment, by taking a house, fitting it up with proper conveniences, erecting a manufactory therein, and having in view the following as the great leading objects of the Institution, viz. — To prevent a waste of the public money; to provide more effectually for the better relief and employment of their poor, by introducing a system of cleanliness, temperance, and

sobriety, among the aged paupers, instead of that vice and immorality which is too frequently prevalent in their own habitations: and by inculcating habits of religion, morality, and emulative industry, into the children and youth, rendering those persons, useful members of the community, who would otherwise perhaps be strolling and begging in the streets, the wretched outcasts and pests of society.

The advantages arising from the zeal with which the Visitor and Guardians endeavoured to carry these objects into execution soon began to discover themselves: for in the two following years, ten other parishes (at meetings duly held for that purpose) agreed to unite in the undertaking; and on regular applications to that effect, they were admitted accordingly.

On a fair trial it was found that the carrying on of a manufactory of the nature originally proposed (in a place where nothing of the kind had ever been previously established) was attended with considerable difficulties; and the Visitor and Guardians were soon convinced, that the more eligible mode of employing their poor was to let out their labour to others, at regular stated salaries. Agreements were accordingly entered into for that purpose, by which means considerable profit was derived by those parishes to which the labouring Poor respectively belonged; and the paupers, by receiving encouragement proportionate to their exertions, were in such a progressive state of im-

provement, that many of them were soon capable of maintaining themselves; whilst the reform effected in the conduct and behaviour of others, enabled their respective Guardians to place them out in comfortable situations, no longer a burthen on their parishes, but useful members of society; and in many instances very exemplary conduct has been substituted in the room of profligacy, indolence, and vice.

The Visitor and Guardians having thus surmounted the difficulties naturally attendant on institutions of this sort in their infancy, and animated by the success that thus crowned their laudable endeavours, proceeded with increased ardour in the pursuit of those desirable objects it must be the anxious wish of every liberal mind and every feeling heart to see more generally established. It is therefore, with the most pleasing reflections that the Visitor and Guardians are now enabled to remark, that the beneficial effects of such a system begin to be duly appreciated. They continue to receive repeated testimonials of approbation from the visiting Justices of the district in which the house is situated; and the increasing estimation in which it is now held has been unequivocally established by the most general approbation: for applications from several parishes having been lately made, to permit them to unite in the undertaking, meetings of the inhabitants of the whole twenty parishes were duly called at their respective parish-churches, for the express purpose of taking into

consideration the expediency of such union ; and resolutions, with the agreements necessary for that purpose, on the part of the Inhabitants, were unanimously approved of, and signed at every meeting without a single dissenting voice ; the consequence of which has been, that seven parishes (paying upwards off 1880*l.* per annum for the relief of their Poor) have been admitted to unite in this undertaking since the last printed report.

This increase in the establishment has enabled the Visitor and Guardians to pay off 800*l.* more of the money originally borrowed ; and several of the parishes are now entirely exonerated from all claim or demand on that account.

The disbursements for the maintainance of the paupers from the commencement of the establishment to the present time, amount on an average to 3*s.* 4½*d.* per head per week, in which sum is included food of all kinds, fuel, soap, candles, grocery, and every thing of that nature.

The Visitor and Guardians, keeping the original objects of the Institution still in view, have only farther to assure their respective parishioners, that the public money is here expended in the most frugal and oeconomical manner possible ; moral duties are inculcated and enforced : habits of honest industry are introduced and encouraged ; and every necessary attention is paid to the health, cleanliness, and comfort of all those placed under their direction and care.

20th May, 1807.

No. XXIII.

Extract from a Treatise on the Amusements of the Poor. By DON GASPAR MELCHOR DE JOVELLANOS, late Minister of Grace and Justice in Spain.

This Treatise, for the knowledge of which we are indebted to LORD HOLLAND, has not yet been published. The author commences with a Sketch of the Roman exhibitions in Spain, and of the Diversions introduced into that Country by the northern Barbarians. He then takes a view of the Spanish Theatre, and offers suggestions for refining and exalting its Dramatic Character. He proceeds to take notice of their Bull-feasts, and of the bad effects which those barbarous spectacles have produced on the national character. He goes on to make the following observations on the Amusements of the labouring class; observations which evince a benevolent and discriminating mind. They shew how much of the present feebleness and debasement of the Spanish character, is to be ascribed to the unwise and narrow principles of their Government; and how little of it results from any natural defect in the people. The author is said to be now languishing in the dungeons of Palma; imprisoned without accusation, and condemned without trial.

THE labouring class of Society require diversions, but not exhibitions; the government is not called upon to divert them, but to permit them to divert themselves. For the time which they can devote to recreation, they easily find amusement for themselves. Let them be protected in the enjoyment of them. A bright sky and fine weather on a holiday, which will leave them at liberty to walk, run, throw the bar, to play at ball, coits, or skittles, or to dance on the grass, will yield them gratification and contentment. At so cheap a rate may a whole people, however numerous, be delighted and amused.

How happens it then, that the majority of the people of Spain have no diversion at all? For every one who has travelled through our provinces must have made this melancholy remark. Even on the greatest festivals, there reigns throughout the market places and streets, a gloomy stillness, which cannot be remarked without the mingled emotions of surprise and pity. The few persons who leave their houses, seem to be driven from them by listlessness, to the threshold, the market, or the church-door. There, muffled in their cloaks, leaning against some corner, seated on some bench, or lounging backwards and forwards, without object, aim, or purpose, they pass their hours, without mirth, recreation, or amusement. When you add to this picture, the dreariness and filth of the villages, the poor and

slovenly dress of the inhabitants, the gloominess and silence of their air, the laziness, the want of concert and union so striking every where, who but would be afflicted by so mournful a phenomenon.

This is not indeed the place to expose the errors which conspire to produce it ; but whatever those errors may be, one point is clear—that they are all to be found in the laws. Without wandering from my subject, I may be permitted to observe, that the chief mistake lies in the faulty police of our villages. Many magistrates are misled by an ill-judged zeal, to suppose that the perfection of municipal government consists in the subjection of the people. Hence any noise or disturbance, is termed a riot, and becomes the subject of a criminal proceeding, involving in its consequences, examinations, and arrests, imprisonments and fines, with all the train of legal persecutions and vexations. Under such an oppressive police, the people grow dispirited and disheartened ; and sacrificing their inclinations to their security, they abjure diversions, which, though publick and innocent, are replete with embarrassments ; and have recourse to solitude and inaction, dull and painful indeed to their feelings, but at least unmolested by law, and unattended with danger.

The same system has occasioned numberless regulations of police, not only injurious to the liberties, but prejudicial to the the welfare and prosperity of the villages, yet not less harshly or less rigorously

enforced on that account. There are some places where music and ringing of bells, others where dances and wedding suppers, are prohibited. In one village the inhabitants must retire to their houses at the sound of the evening bell ; in another they must not appear in the street without a light ; they must not loiter about the corners, or stop in the porches ; and in all they are subject to similar restraints and privations.

Even the province of Asturias, in which I live, remarkable from the natural cheerfulness and innocent manners of its inhabitants, is not exempt from the hardships of similar regulations. The dispersion of its population fortunately prevents that municipal police, which has been contrived for regular villages and towns ; but the cottagers assemble for their diversions at a sort of wake, called *Romerias*, or pilgrimages. And there it is that the regulations of the police pursue and molest them. Sticks, which are used more on account of the inequality of the country than as a precaution for self-defence, are prohibited in these wakes. Men-dancers are forbidden ; those of women must close early in the evening ; and the wakes themselves, the sole diversion of these innocent and laborious villagers, must break up at the hour of evening prayer. How can they reconcile themselves with any cheerfulness to such vexatious interference? It may indeed be said " they bear it all." Yes, it is true, they do bear it all ; but they bear it with an ill will ; and who is blind to the conse-

quences of long and reluctant submission? The state of freedom is a state of peace and cheerfulness; a state of submission is a state of uneasiness and discontent. The former then is permanent and durable; the latter unstable and changeable.

All, therefore, is not accomplished when the people are quiet; they should also be contented; and it is only a heart devoid of feeling, or a head unacquainted with the principles of government, that can harbour a notion of securing the first of these objects, without obtaining the second. They who disregard it, either do not see the necessary connexion between liberty and prosperity; or, if they see it, they neglect it. The error in either case is equally mischievous. For surely this connexion deserves the attention of every just and mild government. A free and cheerful people is active and laborious; and activity and labour produces attention to morals, and observance of the laws. The greater the enjoyments of the poor, the more they will love the government which protects them; the better they will obey it, and the more cheerfully and willingly will they contribute to its maintenance and support. The greater their enjoyments, the more they have to lose; and the more averse will they be to any disturbance, and the more will they respect the authorities intended to repress it. Such a people also feels more anxiety to enrich themselves, because they must be conscious that the increase of their pleasures will keep pace with the improvement of their fortunes. In a word,

they strive more ardently to better their condition, because they are certain of enjoying the fruits of their exertion. If such then be one of the chief objects of a good government, why is it so disregarded among us? even public prosperity, as it is called, if it be any thing but the aggregate of individual happiness, depends upon the attainment of the object in question; *for the power and strength of a state do not consist entirely in multitudes, or in riches, but in the moral character of its inhabitants.* No nation can be strong whose subjects are feeble, dispirited, and strangers to public spirit and patriotism; while those who meet securely in public feel a common interest in the welfare of the community, and are less likely to sacrifice it to personal views and individual advantage. Every individual respects his own class in such a society, because he respects himself; and he respects that of others, as the best mode of ensuring respect for his own. They thus acquire respect for the government, and the subordination established by law, and growing attached to the institutions of their country, will defend them with spirit; because in so doing, they feel that they are defending themselves. So clear is it, that freedom and cheerfulness are greater enemies of disorder, than subjection and melancholy.

Let me not, however, be suspected of considering a magistracy or police, appointed to preserve the public peace, as in itself, either useless or oppressive. On the contrary, it is my firm persuasion, that without such an institution, without its unre-

mitting vigilance, neither tranquillity nor subordination can be preserved. I am well aware that license hovers on the very confines of liberty, and that some restraint must be devised to check those who would pass the limits. This is the point of civil jurisprudence; in which many injudicious magistrates err, by confounding vigilance with oppression. Hence, at every festival in Spain, at every public diversion, or harmless amusement, they obtrude upon the people the insignia of magistracy and power. Freedom is scared away by watchmen and patroles, constables and soldiers; and at the sight of staves and bayonets, harmless and timorous mirth takes the alarm, and disappears. This is surely not the method of accomplishing the purposes for which magistracy was established; whose vigilance, if I may be permitted so awful a comparison, should resemble that of the SUPREME BEING. It should be *perpetual* and *certain*, but *invisible*; should be acknowledged by every body, but seen by nobody; should watch license, in order to repress it, and liberty, in order to protect it: In one word, it should operate as a restraint on the bad, as a shield and protection to the good. The awful insignia of justice are otherwise the mere symbols of oppression and tyranny; and the police, in direct opposition to the views of its institution, only vexes and molests the persons whom it is bound to shelter, comfort, and protect.

Nov. 1807.

No. XXIV.

Reports of the Visitors of the Cotton and other Mills and Factories in the County of Derby; delivered in at the adjourned Quarter Sessions of that County, in August 1807.

Report of DR. DENMAN, as to the Hundred of High Peake.

BAKEWELL.—No apprentices.—Every thing in great order.

CALVER.—No apprentices. Every thing remarkably neat; and in order; except the want of the Act of Parliament respecting mills and factories.

CRESBROOK.—This is a small concern. The mill is not in so exact a state as might be wished, particularly as to the cleanness of the floors. There are about thirty apprentices, male and female, belonging to this-mill, for whom there are separate apartments in a lodging-house a short distance from the mill. These apartments, though small, are clean, not crowded, and apparently well conducted.

LITTON.—Two rooms in this mill were clean, and all the working-rooms white-washed, and in all there was a free ventilation, but the privies not well conducted. There are about eighty

apprentices,* who are kept in a lodging-house at no great distance from the mill. These apprentices work successively in the night, tho this is expressly prohibited by the act. — It is by no means certain to what hours they are confined: — They are not instructed during the working hours: — and there is no copy of the Act of Parliament in any part of the mill.

Tho there are separate apartments for males and females in the lodging-house, the rooms appear crowded; one in particular, in which are lodged sixteen apprentices, though in my opinion, eight ought to be the utmost number in it. — Upon the whole, from the dimensions of the building, it appears almost impossible to contain so many persons, consistently with health and any thing approaching to comfort..

As to Factories or Weaving Shops.

EYHAM. — There are two considerable factories

* Dr. Denman had stated these apprentices to have been sent from the Foundling Hospital. With his concurrence, that line is omitted. To prevent further misconception, I state that no apprentices have been sent from the Foundling Hospital to any mills or factories in the county of Derby: nor (with the exception after mentioned); are any of the Foundling children apprenticed to any cotton or other mills or factories. The exception alluded to refers to some of the girls, who after a fair trial in service, have proved incorrigible. These, if hopeless of amendment, are apprenticed to Mr. Oldknow, a gentleman in Lancashire, who, though he has cotton mills, has employed them as domestic servants, and has hardly in any case failed of producing a reform of conduct. Seven girls make the total amount of those so apprenticed.

in this place ; one in which little business is done at present from the low state of the cotton trade. The proprietors, Messrs. Gregg and Co. of Manchester, have it in contemplation to vary the works ; and in fact the looms, which I saw employed, were few, and engaged in new patterns. These buildings are excellent for their original purposes.

The other factory, belonging to Messrs. Daintry and Co. employs about ninety hands ; not as apprentices, but as work people under a written engagement. It is a great misfortune, that in these works belonging to these truly respectable persons, they thought themselves under the necessity of hiring an old building, formerly used for the same purpose, but however convenient it might be at the moment, it seems to me inadequate to the health and comfort of the people employed.

The weaving rooms are very narrow, very low, and very close.—This is so obvious, that one can scarcely conceive how the health of the people is preserved, in any reasonable degree. I presume this good fortune, is owing to the circumstance of their being with their friends and relatives at home ; many of them have, besides, the benefit of a morning and evening walk.

No attention whatever is paid to the Act of Parliament, respecting mills and factories in these establishments ; and possibly they may not be liable to the inspection of the magistrates.

JOSEPH DENMAN.

Stoney Middleton, Aug. 1, 1807.

*Report of Messrs. JEBB and OTTER, as to the
Hundred of Scarsdale.*

July 30th, 1807.

IN pursuance of our appointment to inspect the state of the cotton mills, in the Hundred of Scarsdale, we visited the one at Pleasley on the 28th.

We have formerly made our report of the excellent management of the apprentices here; we have since separately had various casual opportunities of information, all of which lead us to believe that it is systematic and uniform, and from our examination on the 28th, we have reason to think the regulations of the act under which we visit, are most strictly and carefully observed, and that the health, instructions, and morals of the apprentices, appear to receive a conscientious attention from two resident proprietors.

JOSEPH JEBB.
EDW. OTTER.

*Report of PHILIP GELL, Esq. as to the Hundred
of Wirksworth.*

BY virtue of an act passed in the 42d year of George the Third, Cap. 73, I have visited the following cotton mills and factories, in the Hundred of Wirksworth, in the County of Derby, and I have the satisfaction to report, that I believe them to be in such state and condition, and conducted in such

manner, as is intended by the said act.—No parish apprentices are employed in any of them.

2, Cromford,	}	-	Mr. Arkwright.
1, Matlock,			
1, Lea,	-	-	Mr. Nightingale.
2, Tansley,	-	-	Unwin and Co.
1, Ditto,	-	-	Willoughby and Co.
1, Wirksworth,	-	-	Sykes.

PHILIP GELL.

Wirksworth, 31st July, 1807.

In addition to these Reports, we have great satisfaction in being able to add, that the following respectable Visitors were at the same Quarter Sessions appointed for the County of Derby for the ensuing year.

For the Hundred or District of APPLETREE.

Francis Noel Clarke Munday, Esq. Markeaton.
The Rev. Nicholas Bayley, Derby.

For that of HIGH PEAKE.

Joseph Denman, M. D. Stoney Middleton.
The Rev. James Grundy, Chapel en le Firth.

For that of MORLESTON and LITCHURCH.

John Radford, Esq. Smalley,
The Rev. Charles Hope, Derby.

For that of REPTON and GRESLEY.

Sir Robert Wilmot, Bart. Osmaston.
The Rev. Sam. Pearson, Ditto.

For that of SCARSDALE.

William Allwood Lord, Esq. Jupton Hall.
The Rev. Thomas Webster, Alfreton.

For that of WIRKSWORTH.

Philip Gell, Esq. Wirksworth.
The Rev. John Chaloner, Ditto.

We have the greatest pleasure in acknowledging our obligations to Mr. MUNDAY, the Chairman of the Quarter-sessions for the County of Derby, for his attention to the enquiries of the Society respecting the Cotton Mills in that county. Upon a subject like this, in which the health, happiness, and morals of the labouring class are so much implicated, the exertions of a gentleman in Mr. MUNDAY'S situation, have a claim to the gratitude of the country at large. His observations on the impropriety of apprenticing poor children to Cotton-spinning, as not being a TRADE which will secure a maintenance for life, are earnestly recommended to the consideration of magistrates and parish officers in every part of the kingdom.

Report of FRANCIS NOEL CLARKE MUNDAY,, Esq. as to the Cotton Mills at Belper and Darly,, near Derby.

THE cotton-mills which I visit are at Belper, between Derby and Matlock: they are very large, the property of Messrs. Stubbs. No night-work has been used there within the last 15 or 20 years,

during all which time I have been acquainted with them, excepting when, four or five years ago, one of the mills was accidentally destroyed by fire, and the work people were employed at the remaining mill for their support during the rebuilding of that which had been destroyed, and which was soon re-established. Every day when the people leave off their work to go to dinner, some few of them by turns stay behind as long as is necessary to sprinkle and sweep the floors of the work-rooms. There are casements or ventilators, often both, to all the windows. The children in general seem healthy. There is a well regulated Sunday school. I know that very great attention is paid to the health, morals, and good order of the people he employs, by Mr. George Strutt, who resides near the mills. Another great cotton mill is near my residence, viz. at Darly, one mile from Derby. Mr. Evans is the Proprietor; and though I am not one of its visitors, I am well acquainted with all circumstances attending it, and can apply confidently to that mill, all that I have said of the Belper mills.

I wish to add, that the Justices hereabouts make it a rule never to authorize the binding of poor children as apprentices to cotton mills. We cannot consider cotton spinning as a *trade*; at best, not such a trade, the learning of which can secure an independant provision when the apprentice is out of his time. We bind to blacksmiths, carpenters, and other *such artificers* as are in the service of

these cotton mills ; but not to the cotton spinning business. The cotton spinning children are, generally speaking, under written contracts between the cotton mill master and their parents, to work at so much a week, for one, two, three, or more years ; by which means, there being an exception in the time of working, Sundays for instance, and the working hours in each day being limited, no settlements are gained. On all these accounts there are no apprentices at these mills hereabouts, except as above mentioned to particular trades distinct from cotton spinning.

22d July, 1807.

No. XXV.

The Report of the Royal College of Physicians of London, on Vaccination : with the Opinions of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of Dublin and Edinburgh ; and of the Royal Colleges of Surgeons of London, Edinburgh, and Dublin.

THE Royal College of Physicians of London, having received his Majesty's Commands, in compliance with an Address from the House of Commons, " to inquire into the state of Vaccine Inoculation in the United Kingdom, to report their Opinion and Observations upon that Practice, upon the evidence which has been adduced in its support, and upon the Causes which have hitherto retarded its general adoption : " — Have applied themselves diligently to the business referred to them.

Deeply impressed with the importance of an inquiry which equally involves the lives of individuals, and the publick prosperity, they have made every exertion to investigate the subject fully and impartially. In aid of the knowledge and experience of the members of their own body, they have applied separately to each of the Licentiates of the College ; they have corresponded with the Colleges of Physicians of Dublin and Edinburgh ; with the Colleges of Surgeons of London, Edinburgh, and Dublin ; they have called upon the Societies estab-

lished for Vaccination, for an account of their practice, to what extent it has been carried on, and what has been the result of their experience ; and they have, by public notice, invited individuals to contribute whatever information they had severally collected. They have in consequence been furnished with a mass of evidence communicated with the greatest readiness and candour, which enables them to speak with confidence upon all the principal points referred to them.

I. During eight years which have elapsed since Dr. JENNER made his discovery public, the progress of Vaccination has been rapid, not only in all parts of the United Kingdom, but in every quarter of the civilized world. In the British Islands some hundred thousands have been vaccinated, in our possessions in the East Indies upwards of 800,000, and among the nations of Europe the practice has become general. Professional men have submitted it to the fairest trials, and the Public have, for the most part, received it without prejudice. A few indeed have stood forth the adversaries of Vaccination, on the same grounds as their predecessors who opposed the Inoculation for the Small Pox, falsely led by hypothetical reasoning in the investigation of a subject which must be supported, or rejected, upon facts and observation only. With these few exceptions, the testimony in favour of Vaccination has been most strong and satisfactory, and the practice of it, though it has received a check in

some quarters, appears still to be upon the increase in most parts of the United Kingdom.

II. The College of Physicians, in giving their Observations and Opinions on the practice of Vaccination, think it right to premise, that they advance nothing but what is supported by the multiplied and unequivocal evidence which has been brought before them, and they have not considered any facts as proved, but what have been stated from actual observation.

Vaccination appears to be in general perfectly safe ; the instances to the contrary being extremely rare. The disease excited by it is slight, and seldom prevents those under it from following their ordinary occupations. It has been communicated with safety to pregnant women, to children during dentition, and in their earliest infancy ; in all which respect it possesses material advantages over Inoculation for the Small Pox ; which though productive of a disease generally mild, yet sometimes occasions alarming symptoms, and is in a few cases fatal.

The security derived from Vaccination against the Small Pox, if not absolutely perfect, is as nearly so as can perhaps be expected from any human discovery ; for amongst several hundred thousand cases, with the results of which the College have been made acquainted, the number of alledged failures has been suprizingly small, so much so, as to form certainly no reasonable objec-

tion to the general adoption of Vaccination: for it appears that *there are not nearly so many failures, in a given number of vaccinated persons, as there are deaths in an equal number of persons inoculated for the Small Pox.* Nothing can more clearly demonstrate the superiority of Vaccination over the Inoculation of the Small Pox, than this consideration; and it is a most important fact, which has been confirmed in the course of this inquiry, that in almost every case, where the Small Pox has succeeded Vaccination, whether by Inoculation or by casual infection, the disease has varied much from its ordinary course; it has neither been the same in the violence, nor in the duration of its symptoms, but has, with very few exceptions, been remarkably mild, as if the Small Pox had been deprived, by the previous Vaccine disease, of all its usual malignity.

The testimonies before the College of Physicians are very decided in declaring, that Vaccination does less mischief to the constitution, and less frequently gives rise to other diseases, than the Small Pox, either natural or inoculated.

The College feel themselves called upon to state this strongly, because it has been objected to Vaccination, that it produces new, unheard-of, and monstrous diseases. Of such assertions no proofs have been produced, and, after diligent inquiry, the College believe them to have been either the inventions of designing, or the mistakes of ignorant men. In these respects then, in its mildness, its safety,

and its consequences, the individual may look for the peculiar advantages of Vaccination. The benefits which flow from it to society are infinitely more considerable ; it spreads no infection, and can be communicated only by Inoculation. It is from a consideration of the pernicious effects of the Small Pox, that the real value of Vaccination is to be estimated. The natural Small Pox has been supposed to destroy a sixth part of all whom it attacks ; and that even by Inoculation, where that has been general in parishes and towns, about one in 300 has usually died. It is not sufficiently known, or not adverted to, that nearly one-tenth, some years more than one-tenth, of the whole mortality in London, is occasioned by the Small Pox ; and however beneficial the Inoculation of the Small Pox may have been to individuals, it appears to have kept up a constant source of contagion, which has been the means of increasing the number of deaths by what is called the Natural disease. It cannot be doubted that this mischief has been extended by the inconsiderate manner in which great numbers of persons, even since the introduction of Vaccination, are still every year inoculated with the Small Pox, and afterwards required to attend two or three times a week at the places of Inoculation, through every stage of their illness.

From this, then, the Public are to expect the great and uncontroverted superiority of Vaccination, that it communicates no casual infection, and

while it is a protection to the individual, it is not prejudicial to the Public.

III. The College of Physicians, in reporting their Observations and Opinions on the Evidence adduced in support of Vaccination, feel themselves authorised to state that a body of evidence so large, so temperate, and so consistent, was perhaps never before collected upon any medical question. A discovery so novel, and to which there was nothing analogous known in nature, though resting on the experimental observations of the Inventor, was at first received with diffidence: it was not however, difficult for others to repeat his experiments, by which the truth of his observations was confirmed, and the doubts of the cautious were gradually dispelled by extensive experience. At the commencement of the practice, almost all that were vaccinated were afterwards submitted to the Inoculation of the Small Pox; many underwent this operation a second, and even a third time, and the uniform success of these trials quickly bred confidence in the new discovery. But the evidence of the security derived from Vaccination against the Small Pox does not rest alone upon those who afterwards underwent Variolous Inoculation, although amounting to many thousands; for it appears from numerous observations communicated to the College, that those who have been vaccinated are equally secure against the contagion of epidemic Small Pox. Towns indeed and districts of the country,

in which Vaccination had been general, have afterwards had the Small Pox prevalent on all sides of them without suffering from the contagion. There are also in the evidence a few examples of epidemic Small Pox having been subdued by a general Vaccination. It will not therefore, appear extraordinary, that many who have communicated their observations should state, that though at first they thought unfavourably of the practice, experience had now removed all their doubts.

It has been already mentioned, that the evidence is not universally favourable, although it is in truth nearly so, for there are a few who entertain sentiments differing widely from those of the great majority of their brethren. The College, therefore, deemed it their duty, in a particular manner, to enquire upon what grounds and evidence the opposers of Vaccination rested their opinions. From personal examination, as well as from their writings, they endeavoured to learn the full extent and weight of their objections. They found them without experience in Vaccination, supporting their opinions by hearsay information, and hypothetical reasoning, and, upon investigating the facts which they advanced, they found them to be either misapprehended or misrepresented; or that they fell under the description of cases of imperfect Small Pox, before noticed, and which the College have endeavoured fairly to appreciate.

The practice of Vaccination is but of eight years standing, and its promoters, as well as opponents,

must keep in mind, that a period so short is too limited to ascertain every point, or to bring the art to that perfection of which it may be capable. The truth of this will readily be admitted by those acquainted with the history of Inoculation for the Small Pox. Vaccination is now, however, well understood, and its character accurately described; some deviations from the usual course have occasionally occurred, which the author of the practice has called spurious Cow Pox, by which the Public have been misled, as if there were a true and a false Cow Pox; but it appears, that nothing more was meant, than to express irregularity or difference from that common form and progress of the Vaccine Pustule from which its efficacy is inferred. Those who perform Vaccination ought therefore to be well instructed, and should have watched with the greatest care the regular progress of the Pustule, and learnt the most proper time for taking the matter. There is little doubt that some of the failures are to be imputed to the inexperience of the early Vaccinators, and it is not unreasonable to expect that farther observation will yet suggest many improvements that will reduce the number of anomalous cases, and furnish the means of determining, with greater precision, when the Vaccine disease has been effectually received.

Though the College of Physicians have confined themselves in estimating the evidence to such facts as have occurred in their own country, because the accuracy of them could best be ascertained, they

cannot be insensible to the confirmation these receive from the reports of the successful introduction of Vaccination, not only into every part of Europe, but throughout the vast Continents of Asia and America.

IV. Several causes have had a partial operation in retarding the general adoption of Vaccination ; some writers have greatly undervalued the security it affords, while others have considered it to be of a temporary nature only ; but if any reliance is to be placed on the statements which have been laid before the College, its power of protecting the human body from the Small Pox, though not perfect indeed, is abundantly sufficient to recommend it to the prudent and dispassionate, especially as the Small Pox, in the few instances where it has subsequently occurred, has been generally mild and transient. The opinion that Vaccination affords but a temporary security is supported by no analogy in nature, nor by the facts which have hitherto occurred. Although the experience of Vaccine Inoculation be only of a few years, yet the same disease, contracted by the milkers of cows, in some districts has been long enough known to ascertain that in them, at least, the unsusceptibility of the Small Pox contagion does not wear out by time. Another cause, is the charge against Vaccination of producing various new diseases of frightful and monstrous appearance.

Representations of some of these have been exhibited in prints in a way to alarm the feelings of

parents, and to infuse dread and apprehension into the minds of the uninformed. Publications with such representations have been widely circulated; and though they originate either in gross ignorance or wilful misrepresentation, yet have they lessened the confidence of many,* particularly of the lower

* The following account I have this day received from Sarah Chandler, No. 4, Pancras Place, a person very deeply interested in both of the events; in the former, as a source of sorrow and penitence, for her own imprudence.—She had had *four of her children Vaccinated*. All of them had done well; and all have since been exposed to the Infection of the Small Pox, without apprehension, and without inconvenience. She had, however, lately heard people speak against the Cow pock, and she was afraid (to use her own words) “it was not so safe as it had been.” On the 21st of September last, when she applied at the Small Pox Hospital for her youngest son Thomas, a fine healthy child, aged six months, and was asked the usual question, whether she wished him to have the *Small Pox*, or the *Cow Pock*, she said, “as he had named the *Small Pox* first, she would prefer that;” *Her child was inoculated with the SMALL POX on the 21st of September;—he sickened on Michaelmas day,—and he died on the 4th of October.* I do not state this case on account of its singularity; I wish it were an uncommon case. I hope, however, that the publication of it may prove a warning to others; and that it may serve as an antidote to that *pestilential calumny* which has been so industriously circulated.—The other was that of a *nurse child*, which Mrs. Chandler had the care of.—On the first of June 1806, when she had this child in her arms in Covent Garden Piazza, and was talking to the child’s mother about it; *a woman passed close to them, with an infant in her arms, FULL OF THE SMALL POX.* Her nurse child caught the infection, sickened soon after,—and *died* on the sixth day, the 7th of June, 1806. B. 28th November 1807.

While this note is printing I have two additional instances of the fatal effects of the dissemination of variolous infection. Three children of Mrs. Curtain, residing in Riley’s Rents, St. Giles’s, and three children of a shoemaker, No. 4, Phœnis Street, St. Giles’s, have very lately fallen victims to the Small Pox caught from the infection, so fatally circulated through the metropolis.—The cir-

classes, in Vaccination ; no permanent effects, however, in retarding the progress of Vaccination, need be apprehended from such causes ; for, as soon as the Public shall view them coolly and without surprise, they will excite contempt, and not fear.

Though the College of Physicians are of opinion that the progress of Vaccination has been retarded in a few places by the above causes, yet they conceive that its general adoption has been prevented by causes far more powerful, and of a nature wholly different. The lower orders of society can hardly be induced to adopt precautions against evils which may be at a distance ; nor can it be expected from them, if these precautions are attended with expense. Unless, therefore, from the immediate dread of epidemic Small Pox, neither Vaccination nor Inoculation appear at any time to have been general ; and when the cause of terror has passed by, the Public have relapsed again into a state of indifference and apathy, and the salutary practice has come to a stand. It is not easy to suggest a remedy for an evil so deeply imprinted in human nature. To inform and instruct the public mind may do much, and it will probably be found, that the progress of Vaccination in different parts of the United Kingdom will be in proportion to that instruction. Were encouragement given to Vaccination, by

circumstance that both infants and adults, *evidently and visibly infected with the Small Pox*, are now exhibited in the public streets, more frequently, and more numerous than at any former period, is so well known, and so generally felt, that I need only refer to it. — 5th December, 1807.

offering it to the poor classes without expense, there is little doubt but it would in time supersede the Inoculation for the Small Pox, and thereby various sources of variolous infection would be cut off; but till Vaccination becomes general, it will be impossible to prevent the constant recurrence of the natural Small Pox by means of those who are inoculated, except it should appear proper to the Legislature to adopt, in its wisdom, some measure by which those who still from terror or prejudice, prefer the Small Pox to the Vaccine disease, may, in thus consulting the gratification of their own feelings, be prevented from doing mischief to their neighbours.

From the whole of the above considerations the College of Physicians feel it their duty strongly to recommend the practice of Vaccination. They have been led to this conclusion by no preconceived opinion, but by the most unbiassed judgement, formed from an irresistible weight of evidence which has been laid before them. For when the number, the respectability, the disinterestedness, and the extensive experience of its advocates, is compared with the feeble and imperfect testimonies of its few opposers; and when it is considered that many, who were once adverse to Vaccination, have been convinced by further trials, and are now to be ranked among its warmest supporters, the truth seems to be established as firmly as the nature of such a question admits; so that the College of Physicians conceive that the Public may reasonably

look forward with some degree of hope to the time when all opposition shall cease, and the general concurrence of mankind shall at length be able to put an end to the ravages at least, if not to the existence, of the Small Pox.

Royal College of Physicians,

LUCAS PEPYS,

10th April, 1807.

PRÉSIDENT.

J. HERVEY, *Register.*

Report from the King and Queen's College of Physicians in Ireland, to the Royal College of Physicians of London, dated the 11th of November, 1806.

I AM ordered by the King and Queen's College of Physicians in Ireland, to thank the Royal College of Physicians of London for the communication they have had the honour to receive from them, of certain propositions relative to Vaccination, whereon His Majesty has been pleased to direct an Inquiry to be instituted, and in the prosecution of which, the co-operation of the College in Ireland is requested.

And I am directed to acquaint you, that the said College having referred the investigation of these propositions to a Committee, have received from them a Report, of which the inclosed is a copy; and that they desire the same may be considered as containing their opinion upon the subject.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

HUGH FERGUSON, *Register.*

Report of Select Committee.

“ The practice of Vaccination was introduced into this city about the beginning of the year 1801, and appears to have made inconsiderable progress at first. A variety of causes operated to retard its general adoption, amongst which the novelty of the practice, and the extraordinary effects attributed to Vaccination, would naturally take the lead.

“ Variolous Inoculation had been long, almost exclusively, in the hands of a particular branch of the profession, whose prejudices and interests were strongly opposed to the new practice ; and by their being the usual medical attendants in families, and especially employed in the diseases of children, their opinions had greater effect upon the minds of parents. The Small Pox is rendered a much less formidable disease in this country by the frequency of Inoculation for it, than it is in other parts of His Majesty's dominions, where prejudices against Inoculation have prevailed ; hence parents, not unnaturally, objected to the introduction of a new disease, rather than not recur to that, with the mildness and safety of which they were well acquainted.

“ In the beginning of the year 1804, the Cow Pox Institution was established under the patronage of the Earl of Hardwicke, and it is from this period that we may date the general introduction of Vaccination into this city, and throughout all parts of Ireland.

“ The success of the Institution, in forwarding the new practice, is to be attributed in a great measure to the respectability of the Gentlemen who superintend it, and to the diligence, zeal, and attention of Dr. Labatt, their Secretary and Inoculator. In order to shew the progress which has been made in extending Vaccination, your Committee refer to the Reports of the Cow Pox Institution for the last two years, and to Extracts from their Register for the present year.

	Patients Inoculated.	Packets issued to Practitioners in general.	Packets to Army Surgeons.
1804	578	776	236
1805	1,032	1,124	178
1806	1,356	1,340	220
Total	2,966	3,240	634

“ In the above statement, the numbers are averaged to the end of the present year, on the supposition of patients resorting to the Institution as usual. The correspondence of the Institution appears to be very general throughout every part of Ireland, and by the accounts received, as well from Medical Practitioners as others, the success of Vaccination seems to be uniform and effectual. At the present period, in the opinion of your Committee, there are few individuals in any branch of the pro-

fession, who oppose the practice of Vaccination in this part of His Majesty's Dominions.

“ It is the opinion of your Committee, that the practice of the Cow Pox Inoculation is safe, and that it fully answers all the purposes that have been intended by its introduction. At the same time, your Committee is willing to allow that doubtful cases have been reported to them as having occurred, of persons suffering from Small Pox, who had been previously vaccinated. Upon minute investigation however, it has been found that these supposed instances originated generally in error, misrepresentation, or the difficulty of discriminating between Small Pox and other eruptions, no case having come to the knowledge of your Committee, duly authenticated by respectable and competent judges, of genuine Small Pox succeeding the regular Vaccination disease.

“ The practice of Vaccination becomes every day more extended; and, when it is considered that the period at which it came into general use in Ireland is to be reckoned from so late a date, your Committee is of opinion, that it has made already as rapid a progress as could be expected.

(Signed)

“ *James Cleghorn.*”

“ *Daniel Mills.*”

“ *Hugh Ferguson.*”

Report of the Royal College of Physicians at Edinburgh, dated 26th November, 1806.

THE Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh have but little opportunity themselves of making observations on Vaccination, as that practice is entirely conducted by Surgeon Apothecaries, and other Medical Practitioners not of their College, and as the effects produced by it are so inconsiderable and slight, that the aid of a Physician is never required.

The College know that in Edinburgh it is universally approved of by the Profession, and by the higher and middle ranks of the community, and that it has been much more generally adopted by the lower orders of the people than ever the Inoculation for Small Pox was, and they believe the same to obtain all over Scotland.

With regard to any causes which have hitherto prevented its general adoption, they are acquainted with none, except the negligence or ignorance of parents among the common people, or their mistaken ideas of the impropriety or criminality of being accessory to the production of any disease among their children, or the difficulty or impossibility, in some of our Country Districts of procuring Vaccine matter, or a proper Person to inoculate.

The evidence in favour of Vaccination appeared to the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh so strong and decisive, that in May last, they

spontaneously and unanimously elected Dr. Jenner an Honorary Fellow of their College;—a mark of distinction which they very rarely confer, and which they confine almost exclusively to Foreign Physicians of the first eminence.

They did this with a view to publish their opinion with regard to Vaccination, and in testimony of their conviction of the immense benefits which have been, and which will in future be derived to the world, from Inoculation for the Cow Pox, and as a mark of their sense of Dr. Jenner's very great merits and ability in introducing and promoting this invaluable practice.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Th. Spens, C. R. M. E^d Pr.

*To the Royal College of Physicians
of London.*

*Report of the Royal College of Surgeons, at London,
dated the 17th day of March, 1807;*

MR. GOVERNOR LUCAS IN THE CHAIR:

Mr. LONG, as Chairman of the Board of Curators, reported, That the Board are now ready to deliver their Report on the subject of Vaccination.

It was then moved, seconded, and Resolved, That a Report from the Board of Curators, on the subject of Vaccination, which was referred to their consideration by the Court of Assistants, on the 21st day of November last, be now received.

Mr. Long then delivered to Mr. Governor Lucas

(presiding in the absence of the Master) a Report from the Board of Curators.

It was then moved, seconded, and Resolved, That the Report, delivered by Mr. Long, be now read; and it was read accordingly, and is as follows:

To the Court of Assistants of the Royal College of Surgeons in London.

THE Report of the Board of Curators, on the subject of Vaccination, referred to them by the Court, on the 21st day of November, 1806, made to the Court on the 17th of March, 1807.

THE Court of Assistants having received a Letter from the Royal College of Physicians of London, addressed to this College, stating, That His Majesty had been graciously pleased, in compliance with an Address from the Honourable House of Commons, to direct His Royal College of Physicians of London to enquire into the state of Vaccination in the United Kingdom, to report their observations and Opinion upon that Practice, upon the Evidence adduced in its support, and upon the causes which have hitherto retarded its general adoption; that the College were then engaged in the investigation of the several propositions thus referred to them, and requesting this College to co-operate and communicate with them, in order that the Report thereupon might be made as complete as possible:

And having, on the 21st day of November last,

referred such Letter to the consideration of the Board of Curators, with authority to take such steps respecting the contents thereof as they should judge proper, and report their proceedings thereon, from time to time, to the Court:—The Board proceeded with all possible dispatch to the consideration of the subject.

The Board being of opinion that it would be proper to address Circular Letters to the Members of this College, with a view of collecting evidence, they submitted to the consideration of the Court, holden on the 15th day of December last, the drafts of such Letter as appeared to them best calculated to answer that end; and the same having been approved by the Court, they caused copies thereof to be sent to all the Members of the College in the United Kingdom, whose residence could be ascertained, in the following form; *viz.*

“ Sir,

“ The Royal College of Surgeons being desirous to co-operate with the Royal College of Physicians of London, in obtaining information respecting Vaccination, submit to you the following Questions, to which the favour of your Answer is requested.

“ By order of the Court of Assistants,

“ OKEY BELFOUR, *Secretary.*”

Lincoln's-Inn Fields, Dec. 15, 1806.

“ 1st. How many persons have you vaccinated?

“ 2d. Have any of your patients had the Small Pox after Vaccination? In the case of every such

occurrence, at what period was the Vaccine matter taken from the Vesicle? How was it preserved? How long before it was inserted? What was the appearance of the inflammation? And what the interval between Vaccination and the Variolous eruption.

“ 3d. Have any bad effects occurred in your experience in consequence of Vaccination? And if so, what were they?

“ 4th. Is the practice of Vaccination increasing or decreasing, in your neighbourhood? if decreasing, to what cause do you impute it?”

To such Letters the Board have received 426 Answers: and the following are the results of their investigation ;

The number of persons, stated in such letters to have been vaccinated, is 164,381.

The number of cases in which Small Pox had followed Vaccination* is 56.

* The average of the cases, in which VACCINATION has not afforded a complete protection against the *Small Pox*, is here stated to be nearly ONE IN THREE THOUSAND. This agrees with the general opinion of the faculty, and with the statement in the Report of our College of Physicians. — Taking then the fact, as stated by the College of Surgeons, that of *one hundred and sixty-four thousand three hundred and eighty-one persons vaccinated*, there have been *fifty-six* who have been liable to the *Small Pox* (tho of a milder and less dangerous sort, vide ante, page 145,) let us compare this with the consequences of the *natural, and inoculated Small Pox*. In the latter, the average mortality is *one in three hundred*; and in the natural *Small Pox*, *one in six*. — Calculating by these proportions, we shall find that if these 164,381 persons had been inoculated with the *Small Pox*, the probability would have been that FIVE HUNDRED AND FORTY-SEVEN of them (being 1 in 300) would have

The Board think it proper to remark under this head, that, in the enumeration of cases in which Small Pox has succeeded Vaccination, they have included none but those in which the subject was vaccinated by the Surgeon reporting the facts.

The bad consequences which have arisen from Vaccination* are, eruptions of the skin in 66 cases, and inflammation of the arm in 24 instances, of which three proved fatal.

Vaccination, in the greater number of Counties

died under the Inoculation;—and if they had been infected with the *natural Small Pox*, now so fatally disseminated, in the metropolis, the probable number of deaths would have been, one in six, or TWENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-EIGHT PERSONS;—with this lamentable consequence in both instances, of *fatal infection* being spread through the country, to the destruction of their fellow subjects.—Let the reader compare these results of *natural and inoculated SMALL POX*, with the consequences of VACCINATION, as stated in the Report of our College of Surgeons, and then judge for himself.

* The fact here stated, appears *prima facie* to be contradictory to that part of the Report of our College of Physicians, which states that “VACCINATION *does less mischief to the constitution, and less frequently gives rise to other diseases, than the SMALL POX, either natural or inoculated.*” But this apparent difference will be reconciled, when we consider that these cases of eruptions amount only to 66 in 164,381, or to an average of *one case in two thousand four hundred and ninety*;—those of local inflammation, only to *one case in six thousand eight hundred and forty-nine*;—and those of death only to *one in fifty-four thousand seven hundred and ninety-two*. With such proportions, we have no occasion to impute to Vaccination, what is owing to other obvious causes. I have a great respect for my countrymen: but I do not suppose their *purity of blood and strength of constitution* to be such, as not to supply in a certain period after Vaccination, one case of eruptions in 2490, one of inflammation in 6849, one of death in 54,792, from bad *scrophulous habits*.

from which Reports have been received, appears to be increasing; it may be proper however to remark, that in the Metropolis, it is on the decrease.

The principal reasons assigned for the decrease are,

Imperfect Vaccination,
Instances of Small Pox after Vaccination,
Supposed bad consequences,
Publications against the practice,
Popular prejudices.

And such Report having been considered, it was moved, seconded, and

Resolved, That the Report now read be adopted by this Court, as the Answer of the Court to the Letter of the Royal College of Physicians, of the 23d day of October last, on the subject of Vaccination.

Resolved, That a copy of these Minutes and Resolutions, signed by Mr. Governor Lucas (presiding at this Court in the absence of the Master) be transmitted by the Secretary to the Register of the Royal College of Physicians.

(Signed) *Wm. Lucas.*

Report of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, dated 3d of March, 1807.

I mentioned in my former Letter, that I would take the earliest opportunity of laying before the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, the com-

munication with which the Royal College of Physicians of London had honoured them, on the 23d of October last.

I am now directed by the Royal College to send the following Answer on that important subject.

The practice of Vaccine Inoculation, both in private, and at the Vaccine Institution established here in 1801, is increasing so rapidly, that for two or three years past, the Small Pox has been reckoned rather a rare occurrence, even amongst the lower orders of the inhabitants of this City, unless in some particular quarters about twelve months ago, and, among the higher ranks of the inhabitants the disease is unknown.

The members of the Royal College of Surgeons have much pleasure in reporting, That as far as their experience goes, they have no doubt of the permanent security against the Small Pox which is produced by the constitutional affection of the Cow Pox; and that such has hitherto been their success in vaccination, as also to gain for it the confidence of the Public, insomuch that they have not been required, for some years past, to Inoculate any person with Small Pox who had not previously undergone the Inoculation with the Cow Pox.

The Members of the Royal College have met with no occurrence in their practice of Cow Pox Inoculation which could operate in their minds to its disadvantage, and they beg leave particularly to notice, that they have seen no instance of obstinate eruptions, or of new and dangerous diseases, which

they could attribute to the introduction among mankind of this mild preventive of Small Pox. The Royal College of Surgeons know of no causes which have hitherto retarded the adoption of Vaccine Inoculation here; on the contrary, the practice has become general within this city: and from many thousand packets of Vaccine matter having been sent by the Members of the Royal College, and the Vaccine Institution here, to all parts of the country, the Royal College have reason to believe that the practice has been as generally adopted throughout this part of the United Kingdom as could have been expected from the distance of some parts of the country from proper medical assistance, and other circumstances of that nature.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient
Servant,

WM. FARQUHARSON,

President of the Royal College and Incorporation of Surgeons of Edinburgh.

*Report of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland,
dated 5th February, 1807.*

SIR,

I AM directed to transmit to you the inclosed Report of a Committee of the College of Surgeons in Ireland, to whom was referred a Letter from the Royal College of Physicians in London, relative to the present state of Vaccination in this part of the United Kingdom; and to state, that the College of Surgeons will be highly gratified by more frequent opportunities of corresponding with

the English College of Physicians on any subject which may conduce to the advancement of Science, and the welfare of the Public.

I have the honour to be, &c.

JAMES HENTHORN, *Secretary.*

At a Meeting of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, holden at their Theatre, on Tuesday, the 13th day of January, 1807,

FRANCIS M'EVOY, Esq. President,

Mr. Johnson reported from the Committee, to whom was referred a Letter from the College of Physicians, London, relating to the present state of Vaccination in the United Kingdom, &c. &c. That they met, and came to the following Resolutions:

That it appears to this Committee, That Inoculation with Vaccine Infection is now very generally adopted by the Surgical Practitioners in this part of the United Kingdom as a preventive of Small Pox.

That it appears to this Committee, That from the 25th day of March 1800 to the 25th of November 1806, 11,504 persons have been inoculated with Vaccine Infection at the Dispensary for Infant Poor, and 2,831 at the Cow Pox Institution, making a total of 14,335, exclusive of the number inoculated at Hospitals and other places, where no registry is made and preserved.

That it is the Opinion of this Committee, That

the Cow Pox has been found to be a mild disease, and rarely attended with danger, or any alarming symptom, and that the few cases of Small Pox which have occurred in this country, after supposed Vaccination, have been satisfactorily proved to have arisen from accidental circumstances, and cannot be attributed to the want of efficacy in the genuine Vaccine Infection as a preventive of Small Pox.

That it is the Opinion of this Committee, That the causes which have hitherto retarded the more general adoption of Vaccination in Ireland, have, in a great measure, proceeded from the prejudices of the lower classes of the people, and the interest of some irregular Practitioners.

To which Report the College agreed.

Extract from the Minutes.

JAMES HENTHORN, *Sec.*

No. XXVI.

In the year 1802 a return was made, to the Fever Institution, of the Cases in which the mode of applying Affusion of Cold Water in cases of Typhus (as recommended by Dr. Currie) had been applied in the Fever House, in Grays Inn Lane. It was then published separately. As it is now out of print, and it seems to be material, that the information contained in it should be preserved and circulated, it is inserted in this Report.

CASES OF TYPHUS FEVER, IN WHICH THE AFFUSION OF COLD WATER HAS BEEN APPLIED, IN THE LONDON HOUSE OF RECOVERY. BY W. P. DIMSDALE, M. D.

CASE I.

JAMES JOHNSON, aged eight years, caught the infection from his parents, who died of fever. He was removed on the 19th May, 1802, into the House of Recovery. On the 23d of May (the twelfth day of the disease), the symptoms were as follow:—pulse extremely frequent; tongue covered with dark fur, and very dry; skin dry. A thermometer placed under the tongue arose to 104° : constant and violent delirium. The usual medical treatment not being attended with success, recourse was had to the affusion of cold water. He was taken out of bed, stripped, and a pitcher of cold

water was poured suddenly over him : after being wiped, he was replaced in bed. He slept an hour ; the skin felt more relaxed ; no perspiration however followed. May 24th, pulse 120 ; skin dry ; heat 100° ; delirium continues ; no sleep in the night. The affusion was repeated with a pail of cold water. He again slept quietly, was evidently more collected when he awoke ; and soon afterwards a profuse perspiration came on, which continued through the night. On May 27th (the fourth day after the cold affusion had been first used), he was entirely free from fever.

CASE II.

THOMAS KNIGHT, aged twelve years, was admitted June 16th, on the fifth or sixth day of *typhus*. In the afternoon, pulse 116 ; skin dry with numerous *petechiæ* ; heat 104° ; eyes suffused ; violent pain of the head. The cold affusion, with a pail of water, was directed. The pain of the head subsided ; he slept quietly, and copious perspiration followed. From this time the symptoms were favourable. On the 22d he was free from the disease, on the fourth day after he was removed into the house.

CASE III.

JOHN HARROGAN, aged twenty-six years, came into the House on July 8th, the fifth day of the disease : pulse 120 ; tongue furred and dry ; skin hot and partially moist ; delirious at intervals ; pain of the head and back. July 9th violent

delirium came on in the night; two nurses were unable to keep him in bed. The matron of the house sent for me at five o'clock this morning: he was then extremely outrageous; pulse 136; skin hot and parched. He was placed by force under the shower bath, and two pails of cold water were poured instantly over him. The transition from a state of extreme fury, to perfect calmness, was truly surprising. Without an effort of resistance on his part, he was placed in bed; profuse perspiration succeeded. In three days he had no symptoms of fever remaining.

CASE IV.

ALFRED SWEETING, aged four years, was removed into the House 13th July: he caught the infection from his mother, who died in a small and dirty apartment. On July 15th, fourth day of the disease, pulse very frequent, skin dry, heat 102° ; tongue slightly furred, countenance expressive of much uneasiness. The shower bath was used: he appeared immediately to be much relieved: general moisture of the skin followed. On the 16th he was free from fever. This patient took only the saline mixture, and afterwards small doses of the diluted nitrous acid.

CASE V.

HENRY HANCOCK, aged twenty-eight years, was on the 10th of August, the fifth day of *typhus*, removed into the house. Pulse 120; tongue furred, slightly moist; skin very dry heat 105° ; severe

pain of the head. The shower bath was directed. The pain of the head was removed instantly: perspiration succeeded. The symptoms continued favourable to the 14th, when he had no complaint remaining except weakness.

CASE VI.

GEORGE JOHNSON, aged fifteen years, came in on the 13th of August. On the 14th (fifth day of *typhus*), pulse 124, heat 98° , slight partial moisture of the skin; the tongue furred, and much general uneasiness. August 15th, he has been very delirious in the night, and extremely restless: complains of violent pain of the head; pulse very frequent, tongue furred, rather dry; skin dry, numerous *petechiæ* over the body; heat 103° . The shower bath was immediately used. The pain of the head was instantly removed, but no general perspiration followed. In the evening the head-ach and the other febrile symptoms returned with nearly the same severity as before. The cold affusion was again used, and he felt immediate relief. Copious perspiration very soon succeeded, which continued through the night. He was free from complaint on the 17th, the third day after the first use of the cold affusion.

CASE VII.

JOHN BEARD, a boy aged eleven years, was admitted on the 21st of August, in the third day of fever, with the usual symptoms: pulse frequent; much thirst; pain of the head and back; the skin

rather moist. 22d, skin dry, heat 103° , pulse 116, tongue furred; pain of the head continues. The cold affusion was directed immediately, and applied again in the evening. He passed the night easily, the skin was partially moist: he had some refreshing sleep. August 23d, the skin is now dry; heat 104° ; complains as before of much pain and general uneasiness. He again used the shower bath. In the evening, the skin being dry, and the heat 102° , it was repeated: profuse perspiration came on in the night. 24th, Skin very moist; heat 98° ; pulse 100; tongue slightly furred; says he feels much better. In the evening during a short absence of the nurse, feeling a slight return of heat and uneasiness, he poured a pitcher of cold water which was in the room over himself into the bed. The nurse returning immediately, she removed him to a dry bed; he slept quietly through the night, the skin moist, and awoke in the morning quite free from fever. The only medicines, ordered in this case, were the saline mixture, and small doses of Colombo.

CASE VIII.

ABRAHAM JOHNSON, aged twenty years, was admitted on the 6th of September, with the usual symptoms, in the fifth day of fever. Sept. 7th, skin dry; heat 100° . The shower bath was used, which produced considerable relief. On the 9th the heat was again 100° ; the skin dry. The cold affusion was repeated. He was free from fever on the 12th.

CASE IX.

MARY JOHNSON, aged eleven years; removed into the house August 13th, in a late period of fever. She relapsed August 22. On the 23d, pulse 132: tongue covered with a dark fur, rather dry; skin dry, heat 103°; pain of head and back. Copious perspiration succeeded the cold affusion, and in two days she was entirely free from fever.

CASE X.

ROBERT HOLMES, aged twenty-six years; admitted September 7th with fever of uncertain date. Pulse 100, tongue slightly furred, pain all over the body. In the evening the skin became very dry; heat 100°. A slight delirium with which he was affected, subsided immediately on the use of the shower bath. He was free from fever on the 10th, but extremely feeble. By the use of a nourishing diet, small doses of the bark and wine, he gradually regained his former strength.

CASE XI.

JOHN DUTCHFIELD, aged twenty-one years; admitted on the 25th of September, with the usual symptoms of fever. On the 28th (ninth day of the disease), skin dry, heat 100°; used the shower bath; the heat diminished, the skin became moist. On the 2d of October he was free from fever.

CASE XII.

MARY SIMMONS, aged forty-two years, was admitted November 18th into the house, with the usual symptoms of fever; the date uncertain. On the 20th, pain of the head exceedingly violent, skin dry, heat $99\frac{1}{4}$. The head-ach ceased immediately after the cold affusion, the skin became rather moist. On the 23d the heat again rose to $99\frac{1}{2}$; the skin dry; copious perspiration followed a repetition of the affusion. She was free from fever on the 25th.

OBSERVATIONS.

It appears unnecessary to relate the other cases in which the cold affusion has been used. In all, the good effects of it have been strikingly manifest, and in no instance has the disease terminated fatally after the use of this remedy. In the early stages of *typhus*, the affusion, with very little assistance from medicine, appears to cut short the progress of the disease. In the more advanced periods, when the strength of the patient is sufficient to admit the application of this remedy, it moderates the violence of the symptoms, and contributes materially towards a favourable termination. When the strength is greatly exhausted, it may probably be wholly inadmissible. The patients almost invariably expressed great satisfaction, after the agitation immediately following the affusion had subsided.

The violent pain of the head, so distressing in fever, is almost constantly and immediately removed, and generally, quiet sleep succeeds, with moisture of the skin.

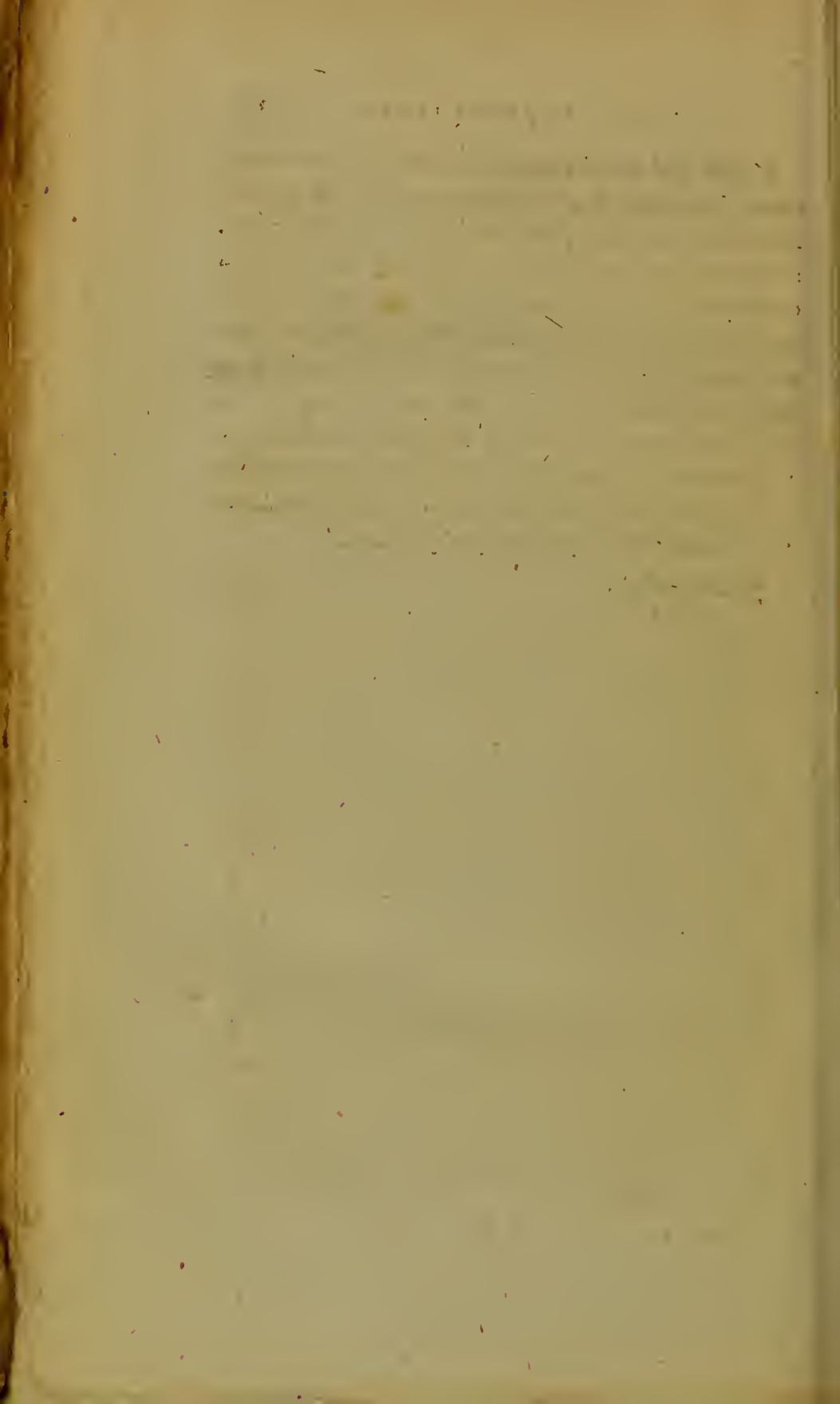
Case the 7th furnishes a strong illustration of these remarks. The boy always after the first affusion, went to the bath with perfect readiness, and even solicited its repetition. The almost immediate discovery of the affusion which he had himself practised prevented any injurious consequences ; and it is evident from the Report of the following day, that the slight exacerbation of fever* which came on in the evening, was completely removed by this application. The feelings of the patient in this instance immediately prompted him to have recourse to the remedy, from which he had before experienced so much relief.

Spring water has been used hitherto without any addition. A shower-bath is placed in the House of Recovery, for the purpose of applying the remedy. It is obvious that the affusion is by this means rendered more complete than by any other mode of application ; it is also neater, and more commodious. Ablution of the body, by spunging with cold or tepid water and vinegar, has been frequently employed with advantage : it is however less effectual than the affusion.

* The reader, who is desirous of information as to the use of the *cold affusion* (or of the *tepid bath*) in cases of *scarlet fever*, is referred to Dr. Currie's Medical Reports, p. 60, 61, and 62 ; and to some other parts of that excellent work. B. 5th January, 1803.

I shall feel peculiar gratification if this short account, by confirming the facts stated in the elegant and truly valuable publication of Dr. CURRIE, should tend to accelerate the general introduction of a remedy so important in the treatment of fever; being fully convinced from the uniform success which has attended the practice, that it may be used with perfect safety in this disease, “when (to use “Dr. CURRIE’S words,) there is no sense of “chilliness present, when the heat of the surface “is steadily above what is natural, and when there “is no general or profuse perspiration.”

3d Dec. 1802.



THE Fifth Volume of the Reports of the Society for bettering the Condition of the Poor being now completed, it is deemed expedient to vary the mode of publication. It is supposed that other means may now be more advantageously adopted, to ascertain and disseminate the true principles of action with regard to the Poor; and to arrange and apply the result of the information already obtained, or hereafter to be obtained, for the benefit and improvement of that useful and numerous class, which must compose the majority of every community.

The reducing of the five volumes of Reports into a regular system, the circulating of some parts widely and effectually among those to whom they may be most useful, and the improving of the whole with such further information as may be

collected, will it is hoped, satisfy the expectations of the benevolent contributors to the Society. Various modes will occur of making this information more interesting, and more beneficial, than it can be in its present form. The arrangement of it under heads so as to enable an immediate reference, and the addition of Notes and Explanations where further communications have been supplied, will require time and labour, which we trust will not be unprofitably employed.

As an example of what is proposed, we will observe, that a selection of such parts of the Reports, as are peculiarly applicable to the concerns and habits of the poor, and a general circulation of them among Cottagers; — a publication of all information, that may be useful in their domestic economy, and in the management of their children, — that may incite to diligence and prudence, — that may preserve and protect from febrile and variolous infection, — and confirm and establish in moral and religious habits; — a work like this, if executed with any degree of industry and success, must

produce a great and a lasting advantage among the poor.

Other selections of a similar kind may be made with advantage and effect from the Reports of the Society. An Extract of what relates to the express or implied duty of Overseers and Churchwardens, may be so arranged, as to afford seasonable and desirable assistance to the serious and conscientious Parish Officer. For Manufacturers and Tradesmen, other parts may be selected, which may be acceptable to them, and beneficial to the Artisans employed under them. For the Country Gentleman, the Farmer, and almost every other class of our fellow-subjects, something may be pointed out, which may engage attention and supply occupation.

We are very far from abandoning the original object, which has long occupied our attention. The desire of "bettering the Condition, and increasing the Comforts of the Poor," will still supply employment, gratification, and anxiety:—employment affording, as hitherto, a constant source of gratification, from the prevalent desire and hope of obtaining the

object in view;—and at the same time accompanied by an unceasing anxiety, lest by defect of attention on our part, that should fail, which might have surmounted every obstacle in other hands.

After eleven years of attentive investigation, we shall now proceed in an increased and unshaken confidence, that—as nothing is wise and prudent in life, but what is honest and just—SO, NO MEASURES WILL EVER BE EXPEDIENT OR POLITIC WITH RESPECT TO THE POOR, BUT THOSE WHICH DIRECTLY AND NECESSARILY TEND TO THEIR IMPROVEMENT AND HAPPINESS.

22. Dec. 1807.

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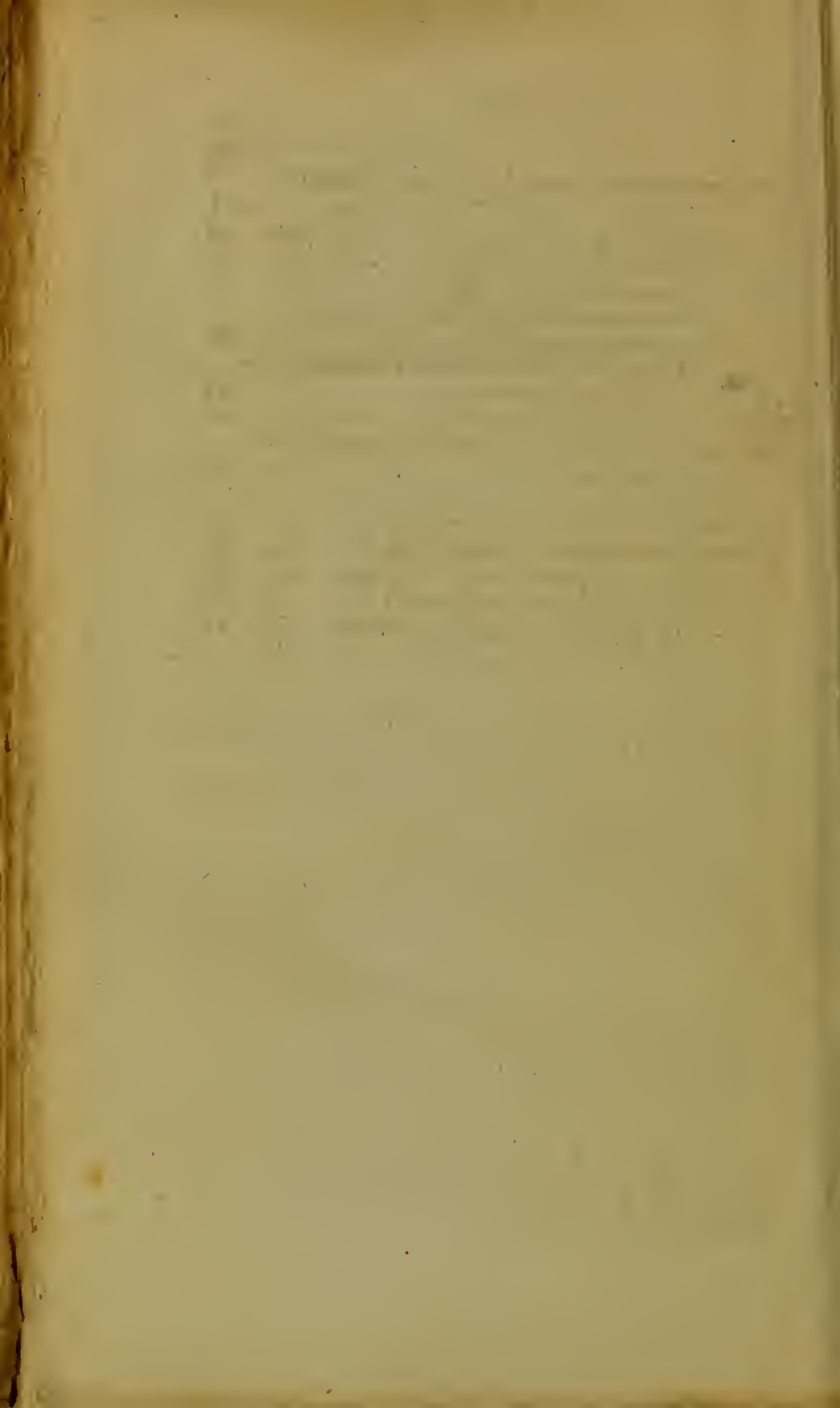
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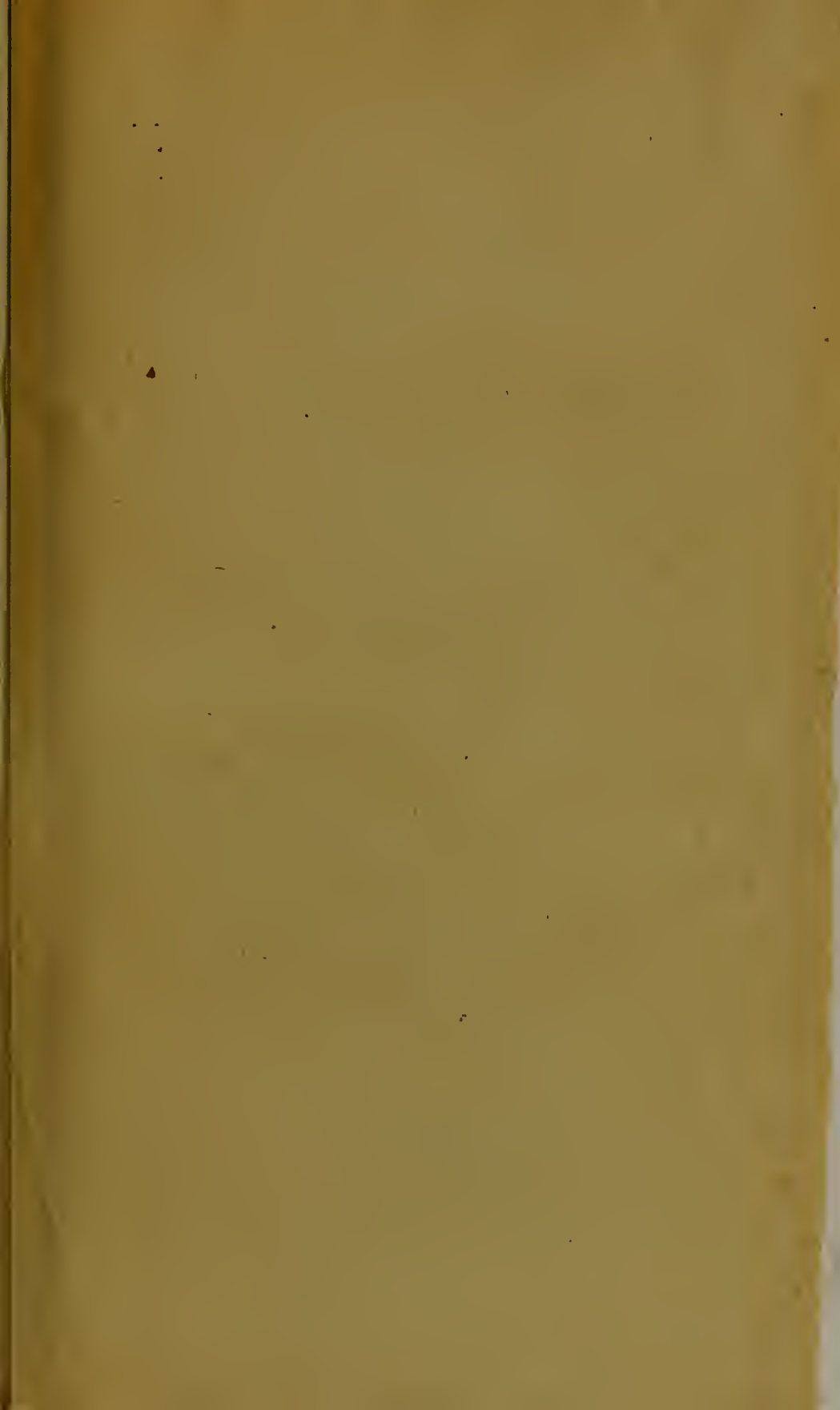
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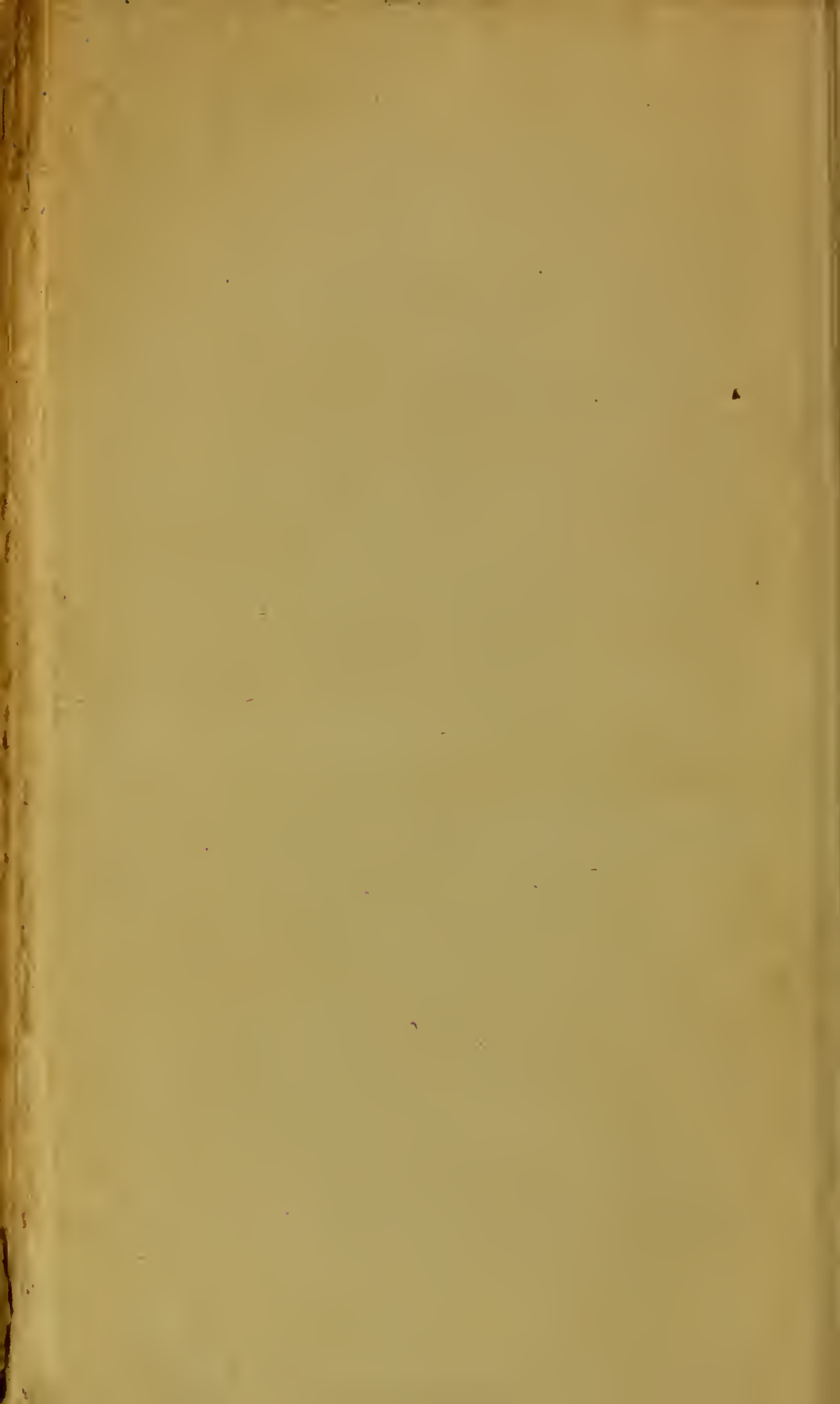
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